

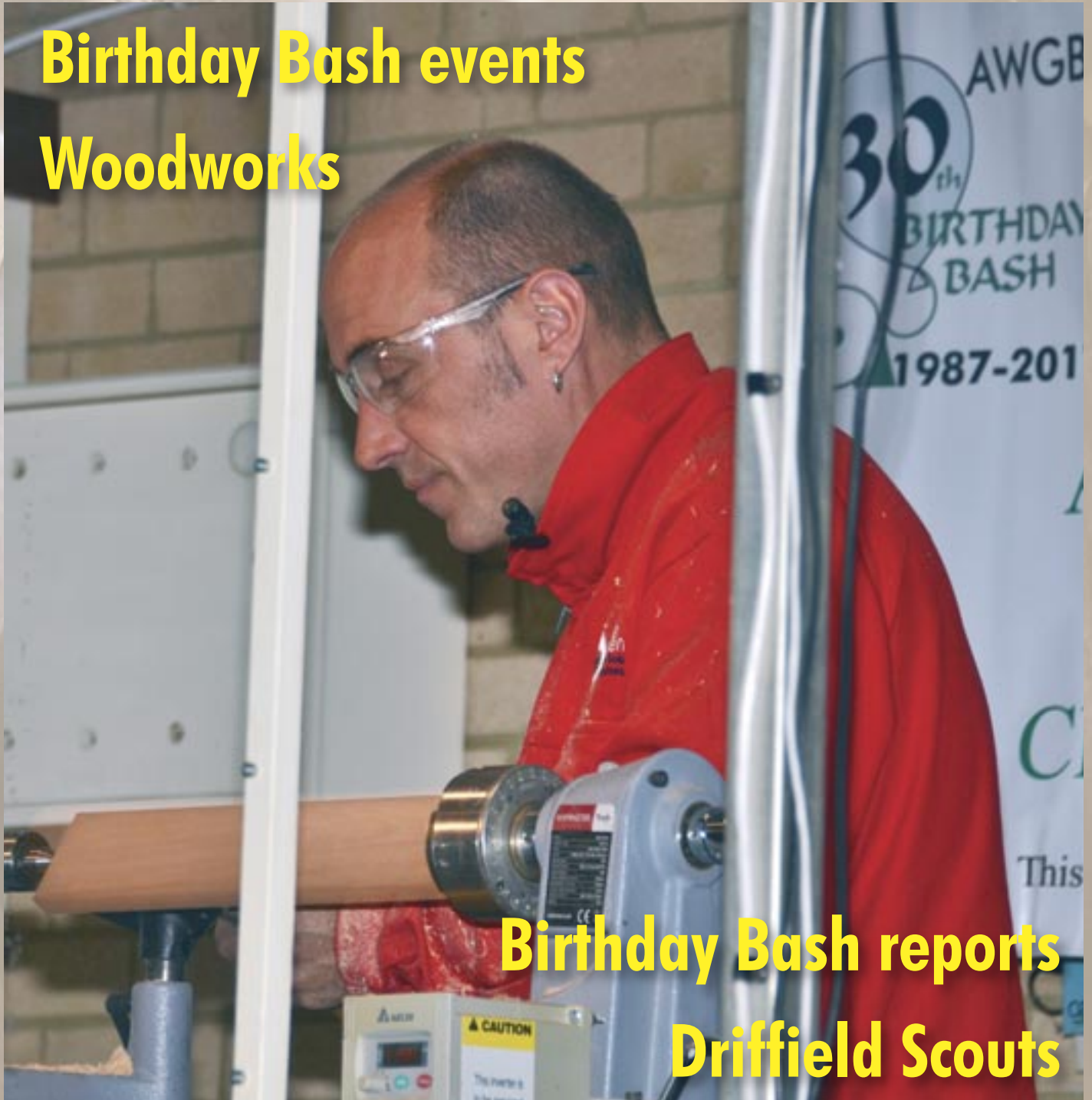
# Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Issue No 122

September 2017

**Birthday Bash events**  
**Woodworks**



**Birthday Bash reports**  
**Drifffield Scouts**



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## Revolutions

Copy deadline for the  
next edition of  
Revolutions  
3rd Nov 2017

## Front Cover

Yann Marot at  
Chelmer Valley Woodturners

See page 6  
for more information

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".

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#### President

Ray Key  
The Firs, 53 Weston Road,  
Bretforton, WR11 7HW

#### Chairman

David Atkinson  
87 Whirley Road,  
Macclesfield, SK10 3JW  
07810 648344  
chairman@awgb.co.uk

#### Vice Chairman

Sam Webber  
Serendipity, Hawthorne Close,  
Grateley, Hampshire, SP11 8JL  
01264 889784  
vicechair@awgb.co.uk

#### Secretary

Derek Puplett  
Baldungan, Derby Lane, Shirley,  
Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 3AT  
01335 360388  
secretary@awgb.co.uk

#### Treasurer

Jeff Belcher  
Nant Ceiriog, Watery Lane,  
Monmouth, NP25 5AT  
07798 746296  
treasurer@awgb.co.uk

#### Webmaster & Data Manager

Paul Hannaby  
Windrush, High Street,  
Drybrook, GL17 9ET  
01594 544417  
webmaster@awgb.co.uk

#### Development & Training Officer

Peter Bradwick  
183 Llantarnam Road,  
Cwmbran, NP44 3BG  
01633 873640  
development@awgb.co.uk

#### Trade & Business Liaison Officer

Russell Gibbs  
121 St George's Avenue  
Daisy Hill, Bolton, BL5 2EZ  
01942 811169  
trade@awgb.co.uk

#### Newsletter Editor

Sheila Hughes  
49 Essex Street,  
Newbury, RG14 6QR  
01635 45930  
editor@awgb.co.uk

### REGIONAL REPS

#### Scotland

David Willcocks  
91a Easter Bankton  
Livingston, EH54 9BE  
07738 169561  
scotrep@awgb.co.uk

#### North

Howard Hughes  
Ty Newydd,  
Padeswood Road North,  
Buckley, CH7 2JN  
01244 543566  
northrep@awgb.co.uk

#### Midlands

Pat Murphy  
72 South View Road, Carlton,  
Nottingham NG4 3QL  
07918 613762  
midlandrep@awgb.co.uk

#### South East

Colin Smith  
130 Broad Oak Way,  
Stevenage, SG2 8RB  
01438 727495  
serep@awgb.co.uk

#### South West

John Montgomery  
150 Cleeve Drive, Ivybridge,  
Devon, PL21 9DD  
01752 894083  
swrep@awgb.co.uk

### VOLUNTEERS

#### Membership Secretary

Mike Wilson  
Bryn Elis, Glanhwa Road,  
Llangefni, Anglesey LL77 7FA  
07801446330  
membership@awgb.co.uk

#### Seminar Bookings

Mark Hogan  
35 Berwick Way,  
Barton Seagrave, Kettering  
NN15 5XF  
markhogan@awgb.co.uk

#### Youth Training Coordinator

Ron Caddy  
Studio 9, The Fairground Craft  
& Design Centre  
Weyhill, Andover SP11 0QN  
Tel: 07903 313065  
Tel: 01264 350323  
acorncrafts@tiscali.co.uk

#### Health and Safety Officer

John Boyne-Aitken  
27 Rock Road, Trowbridge,  
BA14 0BS  
01225 752373  
hs@awgb.co.uk

#### Assistant Webmaster

Paul Middleton  
Volunteer  
paulmiddleton@awgb.co.uk

## Chairman's Notes

### Dave Atkinson

As I write this I've just returned from a week on the Isle of Skye and whilst I was there I didn't see any woodturning amongst the various arts and crafts on the island. An opportunity for someone perhaps?

Since our last edition we have changed our secretary – Mike Glover stepped down and I'd like to thank him for his work with the Association over the last couple of years. Derek Puplett volunteered and has taken on the role of Secretary and you can contact him on the usual email of secretary@awgb.co.uk. A big welcome to Derek.

As with the other new people helping on the Executive Derek is a "volunteer" and will be co-opted as a Trustee towards the end of the year and elected formally at the AGM next year. This means we can all get to know one another before taking the last step and committing to trusteeship and all that entails. I'm pleased that the membership side has settled down after an initial hiatus which was due to important documents being lost in the post between Ryan and Mike. Thankfully, that's all sorted out now and we have settled into our normal routine. Thank you for your patience as we got that one sorted.

The Seminar is now taking up most of our thinking and when you read this you will be able to book for the Seminar next year at Yarnfield. We had a little hiccup over the venue as the promised large lift turned out to be a wheelchair lift but following a visit there last month I'm delighted to say we have got access sorted out and the trade area will now be on the ground floor in the atrium area next to two of the demonstration rooms where we will locate the "larger lathes". We'll have the usual attractions of the instant gallery, the auction after the informal dinner on Saturday and of course the raffle. This time the raffle prizes will be labelled 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc and if you are unable to stay for the draw we will post the prize on to you. This will make the process more efficient.

As well as the opportunity to watch eight demonstrations we will also be holding masterclasses over the weekend where you will be able to work with one of the demonstrators in a small class of up to four people. These will run in parallel with the demonstrations.

At the moment, we are still finalising the plans but by the time Revolutions drops on your doormat we will have the details nailed down so please check our website [www.awgbwoodturningseminar.co.uk](http://www.awgbwoodturningseminar.co.uk) where you will find all the latest information and booking details. We have some wonderful demonstrations planned and there will be full details in the December issue of Revolutions. Remember the full weekend including all your accommodation, meals, teas, coffees from Friday lunchtime to Sunday lunchtime and access to all the demonstrations can be had for £395 if you pay 50% by the end of March 2018.

We will also have options for attendance only if you prefer to stay offsite or just come for the day.

Since the last edition we have run several member development workshops and youth training events. I would like to thank all those involved in these events for their time



and effort in putting them on. They are greatly appreciated by all who attend in all age groups. The same goes for the tasting events at the scout jamborees – thank you to all involved.

Finally, I received an email from Dr Richard Waite, the newly elected Chairman of the British Woodcarvers Association and

we are meeting at the end of August to see if we can identify any mutual benefits to a closer relationship between our two groups. I'll keep you posted on the outcome in the next edition.

In the meantime, enjoy the rest of summer and start thinking about what you will be making for Christmas!



Harvey Meyer



Jean-Francois  
Escoulen



Mike Hosaluk



Max Brosi



Asmund Vignes



Les Thorne



Rod Page



Benoit Averly



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**The new seminar website, is [www.awgbwoodturningseminar.co.uk](http://www.awgbwoodturningseminar.co.uk).**  
**information and new developments about the Seminar will be added**  
**to the website as it becomes available.**

\* 50% paid by end of March 2018

## Border Woodturners

The Open Day will be held on **Sunday 29th October 2017** at the Brampton Community Centre, Union Lane, Brampton Cumbria, CA8 1BX. The doors will open from 11am until 4pm. There is free parking in and around the centre and light refreshments and lunches are available in the Centre Café throughout the day. There will be a display of members' work, together with members' work for sale and various members will be demonstrating on the Club lathe during the day.

The Annual Inter-Club Competition with entries from 8 Clubs from the surrounding areas of the North of England and Southern Scotland will be judged in the morning and entries will be on display throughout the day.

Martin and Pat Pigden will be there with a large and varied selection of timber for sale.

Chris and Dave Biven of Biven Machinery Sales will be displaying a wide range of woodturning and general woodworking tools, machinery and accessories.

There will also be a raffle and tombola with a large selection of prizes.

*This is an excellent day to view woodturning and to meet fellow enthusiasts and friends.*

For further information please contact Border Woodturners contact e-mail is [borderturner@gmail.com](mailto:borderturner@gmail.com).



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## Yann Marot - Double Birthday Celebration at Chelmer Valley Woodturners

It dawned dry on the morning of Sunday 4th June which was a blessing considering how much equipment needed to be moved and how much it had rained the previous week. Chelmer Valley's committee in July 2016 had decided to take advantage of the generous grant being made available by the AWGB for their 30th Birthday Bash which coincided with Chelmer Valley reaching their 20th year.

We were guided towards Yann Marot as being technically very, very good and advised if we could get him over to England to "go for it". A double celebration was beckoning. Yann very kindly agreed to come over and months of planning followed to ensure everything ran smoothly and Yann had everything he needed.



Yann set up and ready to start

We were joined by members from eight other AWGB clubs plus other visitors, some travelled for 2 hours or more to join us. We had the company of our South-East rep. Colin Smith from the AWGB and he was joined by Peter and Diane Gibson from The Worshipful Company of Turners. Woodturning shops from Simon Hope, Paul Howard and John Woods completed the ensemble.

Yann started by showing his different types of cuts and the tools he uses for spindle work (his warm up exercise) by creating a small leg with very fine detail. He did a similar exercise for the faceplate/bowl turning before moving on to make a spatula which outside of demos he sometimes cuts into comical shapes. Yann's English was very good but this session helped us all to get to grips with his terminology.



Warm up exercise to turn a small leg



The Spatulas

### *Comment from Visitors*

"...thank you for a very informative seminar with Yann Marot it was a great day. Thanks."

John, Charlie and Brian – Thameside Woodturners

For the second session Yann produced his Teardrop Box in Spalted Beech with an exotic timber ring in the middle and he explained his homemade tool, formed for cutting the necessary recesses. With the hollowing completed and the outer shape formed, barring the chucking point on the bottom Yann explained how he textures the outside of the box using wire and nylon brushes in a cordless drill. With lunch beckoning Yann expertly cut the ring to fit in the middle and having glued it in place left it to dry.



Hollowing the inside of the Teardrop Box

Lunch was a social affair with a sit down buffet of cold meats and various salads followed by generous portions of Chocolate Fudge cake. At this point we really should mention that both Simon Hope and John Woods make excellent waiters and our thanks goes to both of them for helping us out. Colin Smith then kindly said a few words before the afternoon session began.



### *Comment from Visitors*

"I hope the dust has now settled! Thank you so much for the day. I thought that it was an excellent day and have contacted Yann to say so! I think that the decision to invite Yann was an inspired one, so well done to that/those person/people. I met some really friendly Chelmer Valley types and was made to feel welcome. Well worth the trip from the South Coast!"

John

### Comment from Visitors

"Hi Louise, just like to thank you and Chelmer Valley Woodturners for your hospitality yesterday. Your organisation of the whole event was exceptional and the lunch thoroughly enjoyed. Yann's demo was inspirational to say the least. I look forward to your next event!!!"

Once again thanks for a truly great day.  
Roger Lowry – Norwich Woodturners



Yann working on the inside of the Rope Bowl

During the afternoon Yann completed his Teardrop Box and demonstrated one of his Rope Bowls and explained his procedure for getting very crisp detail between each bead. With small wire brushes he explained how, by turning the brush at 45 degrees to the bead and repeating from the other side you get the effect of the twisted rope on each bead. He concluded the day by showing three short slide shows.

### Comment from Visitors

"I and four other members of Cambridge Woodturners all very much enjoyed the day out at Mountnessing and your Yann Marot Seminar. I did not expect to have had the added bonus of sitting next to Yann over lunch and spending a lot of that time chatting with him."

Ivan Bohme – Cambridge Woodturners



Turning the centre from the rope bowl

On the journey back to the airport very early on Monday morning (his flight was due to leave at 6.35am) Yann was amazed at how light it was, confessing he never gets up before 7.00am but he did see some of our wonderful British wildlife during the journeys he made. He emailed later in the week to say he had very much enjoyed his adventure and was back in his workshop happily making shavings.



The audience enjoying the demonstration

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came and supported us from so many other clubs and The Worshipful Company of Turners. To Simon, Paul and John for joining us with their shops and their generous donations to our raffle and to Netta for the catering. Special thanks to Tim from The Woodyard ([www.hardwoodoffcuts.co.uk](http://www.hardwoodoffcuts.co.uk)) who has recently started to supply timber to woodturners and who generously supplied/donated some of the timber for Yann and our raffle.

Lastly, our thanks to the AWGB for the grant which part sponsored the event, without the extra funds we may not have been able to run the event. So thank you one and all.



### Comment from Visitors

"Thank you for arranging such a great meeting. It was splendid being able to watch and learn from Yann. My wife and I were most impressed by the lunch arrangements which progressed very smoothly indeed. Particularly impressive was Simon Hope as an outstanding waiter."

Peter Gibson – The Worshipful Company of Turners

### ... and from Yann

"Back home and making shavings in my workshop, I feel happy when I think about last week-end. It was a good adventure for me. Thanks to all for your organisation it was perfect and I really felt friendly welcome."

Friendly yours  
Yann



## More wig-stands

### Ron Davis

Last September the Wessex Club placed an article in 'Revolutions' telling us how they made and presented wig stands to their local Hospice.

We loved this idea in Bury St Edmunds Woodturning Club and shamelessly copied it in its entirety.

We asked club members to make some stands and in February they brought to the club the wig stands we asked them to make for the Hospice. I asked club members to make one each, and I expected to see around 10 or 12, club members brought in between them thirty-four!

Well these were far too many for the Hospice and we agreed that they should be shared with the West Suffolk Hospital, and on Thursday 2nd March Vic, David and I, took them into the Hospice and we presented them there. There was a representative from the Hospital there and they were well received.

They will be offered to patients who need them and the patients will be asked to make a donation to either the Hospital or the Hospice.

Another example of Club members generosity, and we have made some new friends.

Thanks once again for an outstanding effort. We also offer our thanks to Wessex for the wonderful idea.



Three committee members and three representatives from the Hospice and the Hospital.

## The Cheshire Guild of Woodturners.

April 29th was one of the most successful days in the life of the Cheshire Guild since it was formed in 2000.

As part of the AWGB 30th Birthday Bash, Mark Baker, Editor of Woodturning magazine gave a demonstration to an audience of over 60 turners including visitors from six other clubs in the region.



Mark produced five items over 5 hours, each item carefully selected to cover a wide range of techniques. Starting with a lidded bowl, he showed how wood can be utilised most effectively by producing the lid from the inside of the bowl using a specialist coring tool. He then moved on to a square edged bowl with elements to add visual drama while emphasising the care that must be taken to avoid injury and disasters.

A simple bowl was next with various decorative techniques using everyday workshop tools and he finished with a three legged bowl and a hollow form decorated using beading tools.

An excellent buffet lunch was served and everyone departed determined to put some of the ideas into practice.

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## Demonstrator Training and Tutor Assessment

Demonstrator Training has been popular over the last few months with courses held in Exmouth, Devon on the 22nd July and Holmfirth, Huddersfield on the 29th July. I am at present organising a course in Bracknell, Berkshire which is already full and have issued pre-training packs to those taking part in the Demonstrator Training Course in Cwmbran on the 16th September. If there are any other members or clubs that would like a Demonstrator Training Day let me know and I will try and arrange one in the locality that you live, subject to getting 3 or 4 members interested.

The Tutor Assessments have been continuing and the day we organised at the Max Carey Trust, Portishead, Bristol, for members to apply for a place on the course went very well with 13 members being assessed by 3 Tutor Assessors on the day. We have therefore organised another Assessment Day at the same venue on 18th November.

If members from other areas want to be assessed, please apply and I will try and organise an Assessment Day near to your area, subject to getting 3 or 4 members from that area to apply. You will see in this Newsletter adverts for courses, these are also on the AWGB website, we go through the same process to obtain other members in your area, although this does sometimes take a while to get enough members. But we do our best for all members.

**John Montgomery**

**Demonstrator Training & Tutor Assessment Coordinator**

**e-mail [johnmontgomery@awgb.co.uk](mailto:johnmontgomery@awgb.co.uk)**

**Tel: 01752 894083**

## Southwest Representative Report

**John Montgomery**

Since the last issue of *Revolutions* the 30th Birthday events have continued. I have attended as many of those as possible in the region since the last newsletter.

From Monday 15th May until Saturday 20th May the Kennet & Avon Woodturners organised an exhibition of work along with demonstrations in Trowbridge Town Hall. It was a very well organised event and I went along to support on the opening day with Pam, my wife and stayed for the day.

On Saturday 1st July the North Cornwall Woodturners held an exhibition of work and demonstrations at the Royal British Legion Hall in Launceston. Again Pam and I went along for the day which turned out to be well attended.

On Saturday 15th July Bodmin & District Woodturners held their birthday event in St Mabyn Village Hall, Cornwall. This was an exhibition of members' work with demonstrating and hands on sessions for members of the public, young and old. This was another excellent day.

On Saturday 22nd July the Weston Woodturning Circle in Somerset had a demonstration by the 'Tiny Turner' Emma Cook. It was a very good day with an excellent turner although the start of the school holidays meant that the M5 was jam packed leading to long journey times, all managed to arrive before the 10am start, although only just. I am sorry

to say that I was unable to attend Avon & Bristol Woodturners event on the weekend of 5th & 6th August at South Gloucester Show due to a minor operation and not being able to drive.

I took along the AWGB banners, electronic picture frame and advertising material to all events and was made to feel very welcome by all clubs.

A youth training weekend took place at Stuart Mortimer's workshop over the weekend of the 4th, 5th & 6th August with 8 youths attending. A report will probably be in a future edition of *Revolutions*.

I will be at Yandles Show on the 8th & 9th September followed by a non-woody show at RHS Rosemoor, Torrington, North Devon on the 13th, 14th & 15th October. I will then attend the Woodworking Show at Westpoint, Exeter on the 27th & 28th October. We will have the new exhibition at all three shows and will also be demonstrating at the last two. If you are at any of the shows please introduce yourselves.

I will also be continuing to attend the 30th birthday events in the region with Burnham on Sea Woodturners on the 23rd September and Crow Valley Woodturners on the 21st October. Hope to meet some of you there.

**Association of  
Woodturners**  
of Great Britain



## Member Training

### Tutor Assessment Day

**Saturday 18th November 2017**

at Max Carey Woodturning Trust  
The Mill, 35 High Street  
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Members invited to apply  
[johnmontgomery@awgb.co.uk](mailto:johnmontgomery@awgb.co.uk)

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Also

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1 member already enrolled

3 more members required

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AWGB Demonstrator Training &  
Tutor Assessment Coordinator  
Email [johnmontgomery@awgb.co.uk](mailto:johnmontgomery@awgb.co.uk)**

## Woodcraft Club show off their talents at annual show

Members of the Broxburn Woodcraft Club showed off their considerable talents by showcasing some of their best work at their annual competition and show held at Strathbrock Community Centre recently.

The evening saw the 12 categories in woodworking judged by Juliet Grant, from Oatridge College, and the eight categories in the walking stick section were judged by Tom Stewart from Denny Stickmakers.

One of the most popular sections remains the Club Challenge, where 20 members volunteered to accept identical bundles of wood, with the challenge to build something with them. The bundle this year provided a real challenge and members didn't disappoint, producing a variety of different imaginative results.

Friends and family were then treated to a wine and cheese reception while perusing the many entries and discussing the judges' decisions prior to the prize giving by Linda Sayers of Strathbrock Centre, to the best in each of the categories.

Once again it was agreed that the pieces on display were of the highest standard, which seems to go up each year.

This year the woodcraft club were joined in the show by Broxburn Art Group and West Lothian Scribes who also exhibited a selection of the work produced by their members.

The exhibition was open to the public all day Saturday when many the pieces were offered for sale.



Chair of Broxburn Woodcraft Club, Dr Jim Carden, said: "I am so proud of our members who have worked so hard during the year to design and create some stylish quality projects, particularly in the Club Challenge. "I continue to be amazed at the range and depth of the skills within the club."

The winners on the day in the woodworking category were: Turning – faceplate, Roger Williams; Turning – Spindle, Dave Willcocks; Turning – Novice, Martin Dickinson; Pen Making, Robin Sutton; Pyrography, Ali Sneddon; Woodcraft, Alan Thomson; Woodcraft - Novice, Moura Sawyer; Segmented, Peter Meldrum; Musical Instruments, Donnie MacPhail; Club Challenge, Dave Willcocks; Best in Show (wood), Dave Willcocks.

And in the Walking Stick Making category the winners were: Novice, Jim Peebles; Seniors, Jack Smith; Horn, Steve Docharty; Fancy Horn, Steve Docharty; Wood, Jim Fraser; Fancy Wood, Steve Docharty; Leg Cleek, Steve Docharty; Any



Les Thorne



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*The new seminar website, is  
**[www.awgbwoodturningseminar.co.uk](http://www.awgbwoodturningseminar.co.uk)**.  
information and new developments about the Seminar  
will be added to the website as it becomes available.*

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# Joey Richardson's Teaching was Brilliant

Gordon Malan

## Organisation

A group of woodturners, who had met on previous AWGB courses held at Snainton Woodworking Supplies (SWS), North Yorkshire, decided to ask the AWGB if they would sponsor another course, this time, run by Joey Richardson. Before approaching the AWGB Training Officer, we established that Joey would be willing to run a course and the number of trainees that she would be able to accommodate.

We then approached the AWGB with this proposal, the objective of which was to take our turning and decorating skills to a new level. It took nearly two years to organise diaries, but eventually a date in April was agreed, then it was changed to May as Joey had another pressing engagement. One of the original group of four had to drop out for business reasons, but he was quickly replaced by a colleague.

## Participants

Mike Kebbell (East Yorkshire Woodturners, Skidby), Sydney Godfrey (Jorvik Woodturners, York), Brian Wigglesworth and Gordon Malan (Ryedale Woodturners, Snainton) reported to SWS at 0930 hr on Saturday morning and unloaded our equipment. We joined Joey in the workshop that had been organised for us by SWS staff, and posed for the obligatory group photograph



AWGB Course Participants left to right; Brian, Mike, Gordon, Sydney & Joey.

We had lathes round the edge of the work-area and four tables arranged in a square in the centre of the space, upon which we placed our pyrography, carving, piercing and



Joey pre-prepared two examples of her work from which the trainees selected the style they wanted to try.

airbrushing equipment. Joey provided wet-wood blanks and extra equipment for those who did not have certain pieces of equipment. Joey then showed us a couple of pieces that she had prepared previously and suggested that we might like to produce something similar. Various safety issues were covered as the course progressed, especially the need to keep our fingers, when inside the vessel, clear of the jig-saw blade and piercing burr!

## Thin-walled Turning

Joey started by providing us with sycamore wet-wood blanks (in polythene bags, that had been stored in a deepfreeze to keep them moist). These were mounted between centres on our chosen lathes. We each decided on an external shape for our wood, and turned it to this shape, with a chucking spigot on the base. Turning wet wood for the first time was a pleasant experience, as the wet wood was softer and easier to turn than dry wood.

The piece was then mounted in the chuck jaws and carefully hollowed, working down in steps, so that the walls of the vessel could be made as thin as possible. We worked from the top to the bottom in steps before hollowing deeper; we used a light shining through the wood as a guide to its thickness and uniformity. Joey was very helpful at this stage: because, what we thought was thin-walled, to



Sydney shapes the outside of his wet-wood vessel

Joey it was still too thick to pierce satisfactorily! When the thin-walled turning was completed, Joey put the pieces in a microwave that she had brought with her and heated each piece in stages of 10 seconds each until it was dry enough to continue working on.



Joey watches on as Mike & Brian adjust the tailstock

## Preparative Decoration

We each chose a pictorial template from several that Joey provided, and the outline was traced onto the side of our vessels; alternatively, a butterfly, for example, was drawn onto the wood, freehand, by Joey. Four small pencil marks were placed one-quarter of the way round the rim-edge of our vessel, centred on the transferred outline, and these were used as markers so that we could draw curves that would delineate the new rim when cut away. A small jig-saw was used to cut round the rim to give the vessel an uneven, flowing-curved rim. The edge of the rim was carefully sanded to round-off the edges and make the wood thinner, trying not to crack the wood: cyanoacrylate glue was used if small cracks did appear.



Joey shows Brain how to transfer an image onto the wall of the vessel.

## Piercing

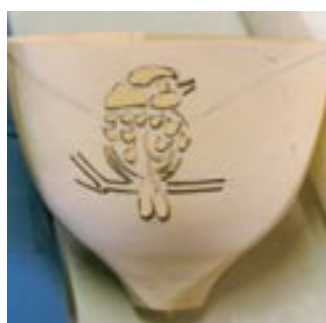
Where the template drawn on the wood was made up of 'patches', we used a high-speed drill and fine rasp/burr to make a pierced image in the side of the vessel. Joey encouraged us to keep the drill bit vertical and work round each patch in a clockwise direction.



The four pupils start piercing and decorating their thin-walled vessels.



Brian's pierced vessel.



Gordon's pierced bird.

## Pyrography & Outlining

The outline and various features within the second image on the vessel were then re-drawn using a sharp pyrography knife-like tip (the setting on the pyrograph was about 4). The image was then covered with a patch of Frisket® (a low-tack adhesive film). A very sharp craft knife was used to cut over the image following the pyrographed outlines, but leaving the Frisket in place. The area round the vessel surrounding the image, and overlapping the edges of the Frisket, was then covered with kitchen towel that was held down with masking tape.

Drawings of flowers and fronds were placed at the foot of the vessel. The outlines were enhanced by pyrography, and the images were filled by colour, or pyrography, or burned dots from a ball-burr.



Brian intensifies transfer outlines before continuing with piercing.

## Airbrushing

One of the Frisket cut-out panels on the image was carefully removed using the craft knife. A light colour of Golden® high-flow acrylic paint was chosen and a couple of drops was put into the airbrush. After testing the flow on a scrap of paper, a gentle stroke of colour was applied to the exposed area. The flow was controlled by moving the spray jet closer (for a fine line) or further away from the target area (for a broader, more diffuse line). This was followed by a thin streak of Shading Grey on the lower edge of the cut-out to highlight it.

The next cut-out panel of Frisket was removed and the process was repeated with the same or a different colour, and the process continued until the image had been completely coloured. Joey then finished and enhanced the butterfly image by placing small dots of white acrylic paint round some of the edges of the butterfly wing.



Brian's air-brushed butterfly and finished vessel

Alternatively, a shape like a bird in flight was cut out from a piece of Frisket. A light colour of paint was chosen, and the airbrush was aimed over the cut-out bird held close to the bare wood. A series of birds were then painted onto the bare





Mike applies a swathe of multi-coloured bird-outlines onto the side of his vessel; different air-brushed colours are applied through a bird outline cut out of Frisket.

wood in different places, wiping the paint off the Frisket between applications. A darker colour was chosen and the process repeated until a swathe of different-coloured birds was flowing over the surface of the vessel.

## Finishing

We had all nearly finished our pieces by the time it was necessary to clear up at 1530 hr. Joey recommended that we finish our pieces at home and use a light spray of acrylic sanding sealer, followed by another light spray of matt or satin acrylic lacquer.



Syd's finished airbrushed vessel.



Brian, Joey, Mike, Sydney and Gordon smiling happily and holding their nearly completed work.

## Acknowledgements

The four participants agreed that this was a brilliant course; Joey's excellent instruction in the various stages of making our individual pieces was informative and helpful, and we went through each of the above stages quite quickly, but without missing any important details. We had a very busy day, and even ate our packed lunches as we continued working! We are very grateful to the AWGB for arranging this high-quality course, and to Snainton Woodworking Supplies for hosting the event and providing equipment and soft drinks.

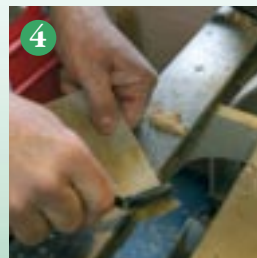
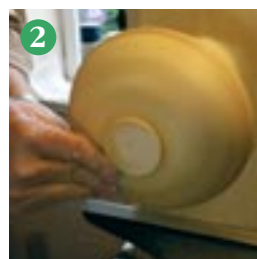


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Hartington St Methodist Church  
Barrow in Furness  
LA14 5SR

**Saturday 30th September 2017**

Intermediate/advanced  
Thread Chasing

### **Paul Howard**

Mutford Community Centre,  
Mill Rd, Mutford, Suffolk  
NR34 7UR

**Saturday 7th October 2017**

Beginners  
Back to Basics - Boxes and Lids

### **Andrew Hall**

5, Well Bank, Billy Row,  
Crook, County Durham  
DL15 9SP

**Sunday 25th February 2018**

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### **Mark Hancock**

**Saturday 17th February 2018**

Unit 365, Springhill, Salters Lane  
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**Or complete a 'Training Workshop Application' Web Form.**

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Make all payments to AWGB**

# Lots of Thank yous!

## Sheila Hughes

Following my visit to Woodworks@Daventry in May I just wanted to include a huge thank you and "great to meet you" to all I met.

As Editor I haven't performed any of the 'helping out at show' tasks as yet, they have either been out of my area or I have been working at the event the AWGB is present at.

This weekend though I had a job to do, which with the assistance of the AWGB Vice Chairman, Sam Webber and our new volunteer Keith Fenton, my job of taking photographs of the new travelling exhibition pieces was made much easier – very many thanks to you gents for your help. The quality of the pieces we have in the Travelling Exhibitions are excellent and a big thank you and well done to all the entrants. The complete display at Daventry was its first outing and it was split into 2 sets at the end of the event for showing at various shows and events up and down the UK – look out for a venue near you there is some beautiful work to see and admire.

After this task was completed I was able to wander around Woodworks with my camera and get a few snaps, some are included here. Whilst wandering I also got the opportunity to talk to lots of people which I thoroughly enjoyed (I am usually tucked away in my graphics studio with the radio for company). I got a chance to meet a few of the Tudor Rose Woodturners who put a huge amount of effort into organizing this FREE event for us – I would just like to say a very big thank you for your efforts, I know how hard it is, you did another fantastic job this year.

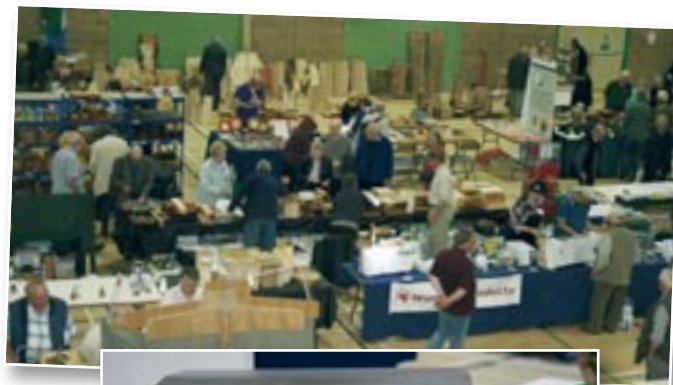
Also thanks goes to all the clubs who made the effort to turn up with some wonderful pieces of work to display. There were some clubs who had been before and I met one club on their first visit – the Silverfox Turners – well done for coming all and I know you have picked up a few helpful tips to be included in next years display! There were competitions for the clubs exhibiting – rolling pins and fruit this year.

There were also 2 steam engines, which were very impressive. These are club projects where all members take part to make a whole. They are designed so that all club members can be included in the project regardless of their skills level. The theme is changed each year and set by Tudor Rose and the challenge is sent to all clubs taking part to take part - hopefully there will be more entries next year.

I didn't get to chat to as many as I wished to but those I did were all very friendly and free with their information – 'cause that's what woodturners do.

Good luck Tudor Rose Woodturners with next years Show and I look forward to meeting lots more of you – because I will certainly try and make it as a visitor.

On a personal note a very big thank you goes to John Wood at Woodarts Products his comments meant a great deal.







The AWGB competition entries on show before being divided into the 2 sets for travelling. Also displayed are the 3 pieces chosen as the prize winners. Space is prohibitive to show all the individual pieces but they are all available for viewing on the website [www.awgb.co.uk](http://www.awgb.co.uk).

Dear Mr Belcher,

Many thanks for your letter with the cheque for £175. This was a most pleasant surprise as I never thought I would win a prize.

My only concern was for other people to see some of the items I make and to appreciate the time taken to produce such work. It was pleasurable to me to know that the judges thought it an exquisite piece of work.

I'm sure my egg-shaped box will be well looked after until its return in 2018.

Kindest Regards  
Colin Priddy.



Hi Jeffrey

Lovely surprise this morning when the postman arrived.

Never thought I'd get 2nd prize!

Best wishes  
David



Second Prize winner David Appleby



First Prize winner Colin Priddy



Third Prize winner Phil Stephens



# The Campsie Show

James Pearson



Shown above are Ralph Nisbet, Ian Smith, Jim Pearson, Jim Nixon, Cliff Tilley, Jim Boulton, John Gorman and John McNay who fronted Strathclyde Woodturners' Contribution to the AWGB's 30th Anniversary, by staging a demonstration of woodturning at the Campsie Show on 3 June. This is an agricultural show & gala day held near Torrance north of Glasgow & close to our base in Lenzie. It is the biggest show of the year in the region, incorporating the crowning of the Gala Queen, pipe bands, vintage tractor and motor car displays, the full range of animal displays, horses, cows, sheep, pigs, dogs & ducks etc.

were given away to the many people who visited our stand. Also given away to the visitors were AWGB information leaflets, and our own Club leaflet.



There are also Arts and Craft displays and demonstrations, and a host of other entertainments, and of course, the highlight - all-day woodturning demonstrations on two lathes!

In addition to keeping the two lathes working all day, we had a display of members work, and although we had not set out to sell anything, some admirers were very insistent and we were persuaded to part with some items. We had also made a couple of hundred smaller items, mushrooms, hedgehogs, spinning tops, pens, etc etc which

In addition to showing-off our handiwork to the visitors, a couple of our members also tried their hand at chatting-up the local ladies!



Altogether this was a very successful, if a very tiring day. We had very many interested visitors, they all went away with a Club information leaflet and at least a couple of hundred also took away a small sample of our woodturning.

## Note

## Middlesex Woodturners Association

Meetings will now be at the following address:

Gateway House, North Harrow Carpark,  
Pinner Road, North Harrow HA2 7TA



# The Strategy of the Genes

Steve Fearnley

An unusual woodturning commission is now "on tour" in Edinburgh.

Called the Strategy of the Genes, it is based on shapes created by revolving four Calibri font letters – a c g t – through 360 degrees, sweeping out the shapes shown in the photographs. The four letters represent the four types of base found in a DNA molecule - adenine (a), cytosine (c), guanine (g), and thymine (t). They are made in walnut and ash, and finished with a matt oil finish.



Edinburgh Hospital. She writes on her website ([www.penelopeskay.co.uk](http://www.penelopeskay.co.uk))

How is the work of a scientist like the work of an artist, and how is it different?

My most recent work, The Strategy of the Genes, is inspired by Dr. Pippa Thomson who once commented that the problem with working with data and statistical analysis is that it is possible to lose sight of the reality of the material being investigated.

The Strategy of the Genes is one realisation of the DNA codes she works with, the a,c,g and t notations given weight and volume as playing pieces in a game whose rules are obscure.

The title of the piece is taken from the late Professor C.H.Waddington's book of the same name.

The pieces and the board were made by Steve Fearnley ([www.oldfern.co.uk](http://www.oldfern.co.uk))

The set is currently on tour in Edinburgh. It has visited the Assembly Rooms, a shopping centre, a biological sciences conference, and is next likely to appear in the foyer of the University of Edinburgh psychology building in St George's square.



The board is made from sixteen 11 cm ash squares, which have been stained red, yellow, green and blue, with alternating grain patterns showing through the stain. These were fixed to a backing board, and then surrounded with a stout ash frame. The whole was finished with oil.

The set was designed by artist Penelope Kay, currently artist in residence at The University of Edinburgh, for the Royal



## Wealden Woodturners

Proudly celebrate the 30th birthday of the AWGB with an all day demonstration featuring

### Phil Irons

who will be demonstrating hollow forms and colouring.

A display of members work will be available to view

17th September 10:00am - 4:00pm

Robertsbridge Community Hall

TN32 5DG

There will be a light lunch and refreshments

Admission by advance tickets, as numbers are limited

Tickets are £15 and available from Anne Smith by post to

Craigmore, Stream Lane Hawkhurst, Kent. TN18 4RD

or e-mail [admin@wealdenwoodturners.org.uk](mailto:admin@wealdenwoodturners.org.uk)



## A little project by John Leach

An illuminated disc in a wooden housing for use at shows for advertising AWGB.

Well done John you made a great job of that - Editor



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## West Midlands Wood Turners AWGB 30th Birthday Bash

### Malcolm Thorpe

The history of West Midlands Wood Turners closely mirrors that of the AWGB, so our 30th birthday bash brought together members who have taken an active part in the development of the AWGB. The day consisted of a number of mini demonstrations using our state of the art camera system, plus five turning stations for members to pass on their experience.



First up was Graham Lovatt, an AWGB life member who was the Midlands representative for several years and organised the AWGB stands at the NEC. He fascinated new members and visitors with his signature offset turned lady. Graham made the comment on how far demonstrations had come from the overhead mirrors of the past to modern camera systems. Graham was a difficult act to follow, but Steve Heeley, a local professional and friend of the club, was up to it. He turned a yew mushroom in double quick time, and then retired to a lathe with a queue of novices to help in their development. Next was Keith Lanchester, who took part in the tutor development programme and set up the camera system. This was followed by two long serving members of the AWGB; Phil Stevenson, who demonstrated for the AWGB at the NEC. He also made a mushroom, but with an added loose ring. Then Peter Hockley, who handled insurance for the AWGB, made an exquisite small goblet with three loose rings. All the focusing range of the cameras was needed. Last up before lunch break was Dave Nash, who despite his long membership had not demonstrated to such a large audience before. As he said, he was used to turning before small numbers and the public but it was daunting with all the experienced turners in the audience.

Lunchtime was a busy period; the competition to judge, visitors to greet and what all birthdays should have - the chairman Cliff Lane cutting the cake. There was time also to peruse the English



Hardwoods stock for that special piece of timber and a look at the 'bring and buy' table.

The afternoon turners; Malcolm Thorpe, an AWGB WIW runner-up, Steve Simmons, the Clubs' equipment manager and Wolfgang Schulze-Zachau, the vice chairman all took their turns. Malcolm turned an apple, Steve an offset pendant, and then Wolfgang finished the day with a chatty demonstration on finials. Greg Miller, an AWGB WIW silver winner missed out on the spotlight but spent the day at a lathe passing on his considerable knowledge to recent new members. The other four lathes were in constant use tutoring beginners.

It was a very successful day, with over 50 attending. There were several visitors, two of whom joined the club and AWGB on the day.

Many thanks to Keith and Steve for manning the cameras, Dave, Mary and Rob for keeping the seemingly endless supply of tea and coffee going, and my wife for the cake.



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# Ryedale Woodturners take on Driffield Scouts

Gordon Malan



On Saturday 22 April 2017, five Ryedale Woodturners attended at the Driffield Showground at 08:30 hr and set up their four lathes in one of the permanent buildings on the site. Bob Ingram, Keith Harte, and Roger Potter brought their own lathes. Gordon Malan was grateful to Terry Taylor, who allowed him to borrow his mini-lathe. We were pleased that John Allred came along to help and relieve us when we needed a rest, as the session lasted, without a break, from around 10:00 hr until we were asked to pack up at 16:00 hr!

The Wolds & Coast Scout District (ie Bridlington, Driffield and the surrounding area) meeting was organised primarily for their St George's Day celebration. We expected the age range to be 12 to 15 years, with possibly some girls, but in fact Cubs and Beavers (and others?) were also present, and the total number of youths present amounted to more than 100! Several adults, including parents, scout leaders or adult helpers were present. The day started with a short service, followed by a few hours of Scouting and other activities, including woodturning.

While waiting for the Scouts to hold their service, Gordon spent the time turning a woggle (a first for him!), which one of the scouts was very happy to test and then receive as a gift! (Because it was not possible to obtain parental permission for publication of the pictures of the youths, their faces have been blurred to obscure their identities).

Keith Harte provided a table-full of examples of



his turned work, and he had several offers to buy many of the items on display. For most of the day, there was a queue of between five and 20 youths, some of whom had to wait for over an hour, to have an opportunity to 'have a go' on a lathe. The most common item turned was a dibber, although one enterprising Scout asked for, and then turned, a narrow-shafted arrow and another made a plant label!



John Allred instructs



Keith Harte helps



Bob Ingram shows how



A Scout leader and visitor admire the work of a scout on a lathe








Roger Potter explains spindle-turning

Before each volunteer was allowed to turn on the lathe, they were provided with safety glasses or a safety helmet, and they were offered a smock (if it wasn't too big on a tiny Cub Scout!) and a face-mask for sanding. They were individually introduced to the lathe and the dangers of sharp tools and getting fingers caught between the tool-rest and the rotating wood; they were closely mentored while they turned their item of choice.

The ageing woodturners found the day stimulating and interesting, but also very tiring! It was a pleasure to find so many youngsters who were interested and excited to try their hands at turning wood on a lathe. It is hoped that this interest will be carried forward to some of them taking up woodturning in the future.

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# Waveney & District Woodturners



Mutford Village Hall, Mutford, Nr Lowestoft, Suffolk NR34 7UP

## Gary Rance - All Day Demo - Sept 30th 2017

A full-day demo hosted by one of the best and most highly regarded turners in the country.

An AWGB 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday sponsored event that is open to other clubs as well as the public.

Tickets available from David Ritchie at the Waveney Club on 01502 565865.

Cost: £10 per head which includes a buffet lunch.



# AWGB Birthday Bash

## Lesley Churton

On Saturday 24 June 2017 we hosted a full day demonstration by the Dutch turner Ronald Kanne, which members and visitors alike thoroughly enjoyed. As usual the event took place in the Grain Loft of the Wood Lane Countryside Centre, a farm complex built over two hundred years ago. It's a super venue and thanks to the generous AWGB Birthday Bash grant, we were able to offer the demo, and all refreshments, including the usual home-made lunch, at a reasonable price.



A tippy-top and ingenious bird feeder ready for some visitors.



Ronald did not disappoint and, considering English is his second language, his explanations, tips and tricks, safety aspects, and overall presentation was absolutely first class.

He turned a vessel in wet cherry that would turn in on itself when dry, a beautiful bowl, a tippy-top and an ingenious bird feeder.

Again thanks to the AWGB, to Ronald, to all who helped on the day, and to the audience (members and guests alike) who always support us.

## Notice

The introduction of MailChimp allows us to send out e-bulletins to keep you up to date with news and information. Any AWGB member who isn't receiving a copy (because we don't have their email address or you have changed it since registering with us) can subscribe by following the link on the front page of our website [www.awgb.co.uk](http://www.awgb.co.uk). Also ask Mike Wilson - the Membership Secretary, [membership@awgb.co.uk](mailto:membership@awgb.co.uk) to update your membership details if you wish to add or change your email address.





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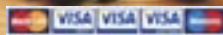
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A Branch of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

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## Youth Training Programme

Date	Topic/Technique	Organiser	Venue
17th February 2018	Workshop Health & Safety Various Projects and techniques	Peter Bradwick	Croesyceiliog Community Education Centre, The Highway, Cwmbran, Torfaen NP44 2HF
24th February 2018	Workshop Health & Safety Various Projects and techniques	Andrew Hall	5 Well Bank, Billy Row Crook, County Durham DL15 9SP

**For application forms and information visit... [www.awgb.co.uk](http://www.awgb.co.uk)**

**Or contact... Ron Caddy - 07903 313065 e-mail [acorncrafts@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:acorncrafts@tiscali.co.uk)**

**PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE**



### Phil Irons in action with Woodcut Tools at Axminster stores



Good news for woodturning enthusiasts: Phil Irons will be demonstrating tools from Woodcut at all the Axminster stores over the next few months.

Phil is now well established on both the UK and international woodturning scene. But it was as a teenager that Phil first became interested in turning, when his father was given a child's treadle lathe which he and his brothers played around on. Turning became a serious hobby in Phil's late 20s and early 30s while working in the travel industry. Then in 1994 he made the decision to become a full-time turner. Today he has a thriving business, supplying several top galleries, but readily admits he has done his fair share of production turning.

According to Phil, he gets most pleasure and satisfaction from turning hollow forms and lidded vessels, and has developed a range of surface decoration techniques. He has turned some truly exquisite vases for many years and

created some wonderful one-off masterpieces at his studio workshop. Each piece that he creates is unique in form and colour, with the source materials personally selected from tree surgeons and firewood merchants. These pieces of work are produced from choice cuts of trees; then turned and finished so as to maximise the natural beauty of the grain and textures from within the wood. Thus, his expertise in this field has led him to travel the world demonstrating and teaching his skills.

Having won many awards in UK competitions, Phil is regularly invited to teach and demonstrate his skills at a national and international level.

New Zealand based company Woodcut Tools and Phil have a long association spanning over 25 years. Woodcut manufactures a unique range of woodturning products offering innovation, quality and value. The company is best known for its lathe mounted Bowlsaver bowl coring system (original Bowlsaver and the MAX3), Tru-Grind sharpening jigs and Pro-Forme hollowing tools.

#### 2017

30 September – Axminster  
11 November – Basingstoke

#### 2018

13 January – Nuneaton  
10 March – North Shields  
28 April – Cardiff  
2 June – Sittingbourne  
21 July – High Wycombe

All demos will run from 10am till 4pm.

This is a great opportunity to see a master of his craft at work. To find out more about Phil, visit [philirons.com](http://philirons.com).

For further information, please visit [axminster.co.uk/stores](http://axminster.co.uk/stores).





## SCOTTISH BORDERS WOODTURNERS

are holding their **AWGB 30<sup>TH</sup> Birthday Bash**

**on OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup> and 22<sup>ND</sup> 2017**

**at Crailing Village Hall, Crailing, Jedburgh, Scottish Borders, TD8 6TW**

demonstrations will be held on both days from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Saturday 21st October – Dave Willcocks** (AWGB Scot rep)

**Sunday 22nd October – Chris Tait** (Northumbrian Woodturners)

tickets are £5.00 per day.

tea and coffee supplied on breaks, bring your own lunch.  
raffle.

visitors are welcome but space may be limited,  
contact: [secretary@sbwt.org](mailto:secretary@sbwt.org) for booking and further information.



## Doughnut Chuck Hazards

### Mike Haselden

Thankfully woodturners hold no secrets. Here is a tip worth mentioning.

A doughnut chuck consists of two medium density fibreboard (MDF) or plywood disks bolted together near the periphery with four or more coach bolts and wing-nuts or hexagon nuts. One disk is mounted on the lathe with a chucking point, the importance of which I will mention later. The other disk on the outward side of the chuck has the middle cut out, which actually makes it a ring.

The doughnut chuck is used for holding a work piece centrally but often off-centre with the portion to be worked exposed within the outer disk window. A doughnut chuck has to be fabricated to suite the lathe and intended work. There are at least three main hazards associated with this type of chuck:

The chucking point must be very secure to withstand the forces of the overhanging weight and any imbalance of off-centre work. A counter balance weight should be fixed within the chuck if the off-centre piece is significant enough to induce lathe oscillation, even at low revs. But any counter weight must be secured to ensure it does not come off or project out to cause yet another hazard. A chucking point on MDF should never, ever, be a compression type, because MDF crushes and delaminates too easily. An expansion chucking point for dovetail jaws fully set in to offer shoulder

contact support should be satisfactory. On larger MDF disks I will reinforce the chucking recess with Superglue. If in doubt, and certainly with the more demanded doughnut chuck, it is best to glue and screw a suitable plywood pad on the MDF in which to form the chucking recess.

When in use, there will be the projecting nuts and some length of bolts spinning round on the headstock side of the disks and here is probably the greater hazard. Making inadvertent contact with these revolving metal objects would result in some truly nasty injuries!

This is my method of protection. Fold about 200 mm lengths of masking tape round two or more of the bolts and stick the two contact faces together, leaving flag-like vanes pointing out. Now, when you switch on, these masking tape flags will whizz round providing you with three hard to ignore warning systems. They will make a noise, they will make a draught and they will whip you with impunity if you get too close because you will automatically pull back.

To find the correct weight and position for balancing the off centre work, try this. Slacken off the drive belt of the lathe, so that the work on the lathe rotates freely. The heavy part will settle at the bottom. Now judge how much counter balance weight is needed and temporarily fix. Carefully test and when satisfactory fix securely.

One final minor point. Our American cousins will spell donut thus, be it the above mentioned or the vaguely looking edible scrumptious type.

# Forest Of Dean Woodturners

## Keith Fenton

Having applied to the AWGB for a Birthday Bash grant and been notified in October 2016 of our success the planning process began in earnest at the start of 2017. The club formed a small sub-committee headed up by John Millwater and started looking for both a venue and a demonstrator of suitable repute to head an all day and evening event.

The venue was kindly provided by the Directors of Hillside Brewery in the Forest of Dean. They had previously been good enough to sponsor a club competition to turn pump handle(s) to promote their range of craft beers in local public houses. The demonstrator we approached was Les Thorne and we were pleased he accepted our invitation, albeit he had never previously done a 12 hour demonstration.

The sub-committee arranged a BBQ for lunch time with all the usual accompaniments and the brewery provided a bar and facilities. We borrowed two large drum BBQ's and appointed one of the sub-committee as chief chef for the day. Well done Monica!



Several weeks of ever more detailed preparations followed and plans were laid should the weather not support our efforts. In the event; we never did agree who should hold the fishing umbrellas over the BBQ in the rain.

Wednesday 21st of June arrived and sun shone for us, 18°C at 8am rising to 32°C at midday!

The committee and helpers all arrived on site around 8.00am, signs were erected along the A40, screens and projectors put in place, BBQ's laid out along with prepared food and tables etc.



The brewery had offered to sponsor another competition to judge further pump handles and associated brewery related items. In the event we had several different handle designs in a couple of different formats along with a tea light holder made from a cut in half beer bottle on a wooden base.

Promptly at 9.30am Les Thorne commenced his demonstration accompanied by plenty of personality and perspiration. The audience of around thirty members and guests watched as Les prepared his first item of the day a 75mm x 75mm Ash box with a textured and coloured finish. There was as usual lots of discussion regards the different tools, cuts, colours and technique options. After a refreshment break Les led a discussion on the various merits of three differently shaped Ash bowls and a vote was completed which decided the audiences view of the ranking of the designs.

With the first bowl completed and the BBQ charcoal now well alight, we broke for lunch. The sun was now overhead and the cooks were almost as hot as the grills they were attending. The bar was open and those fortunate enough not to be driving enjoyed the delights of the craft beers made on site.



After lunch we made a start on part two of Les' demonstration, a quick review of bowl one, a "peanut" bowl with undercut rim and round bottom was followed by the commencement of bowl two. This was again in Ash and was a "Bert Marsh" classic ogee design that was well received by the members.

A third bowl followed, trumpet shaped with a small base, as this was the least popular of the initial designs Les decided to "spruce it up" with both colour and texture. In the event several members agreed that it had improved its standing from third position in the design rankings.





The weather was still consistently hot and the audience were visibly wilting at this stage. We broke again for a further BBQ and everything remaining, burgers, skewers, chicken and sausages were eaten. The opportunity was taken by the non drivers to sample further craft beers.

Paul Williamson, Brewery Director led the judging panel who after much debate and discussion, decided on the rankings of the pump handles entered in their competition. The winner was Keith Fenton with an Ash entry with fractal burning. Second was John Birkett with a handle complete with an integral Chinese ball, Jeff Belcher with a matched pair of coloured and textured handles took third place. All the entries were rewarded with prizes of assorted bottled beers and the winners received vouchers for future brewery experience days and additional assorted bottles of beer.



With Les suitably refreshed we started the evening session with a demonstration of his approach to a two part traditional Oak candlestick. There were variations from the

norm with a thistle top, some scorching and distressing along with the deliberate under sizing of the stem along with a display of the remedial process required to correct the "error". The candle stick was finally finished with an abrasive brush to remove the carbon left by the burning and then a coat of white liming wax.

A further break for tea, coffee and beer was followed by the final turning session in which Les showed us how to make a wet turned, thin walled, natural edged, short stemmed, large goblet. This was made particularly interesting by the use of an interior light to show the translucence of the wall thickness as the turning progressed.



The day finished with thanks to Les for his mammoth day, the Brewery and staff for their generous hospitality and the subcommittee and members who did so much to make the day a success. Final thanks went to the AWGB for presenting us with the Birthday Grant that initially kicked off the idea for the whole day.



welcome all to help celebrate the AWGB's  
30<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a day's demonstration by  
professional woodturner

**Mark Sanger**

*plus Nigel Fleckney selling  
his English hardwoods*

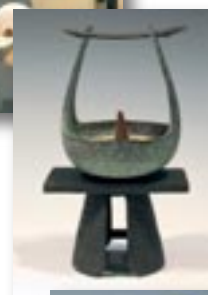
**at Cambridge Scout HQ, 195 Perne Road, Cambridge, CB1 3NT**

**on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2017 - 10am to 4pm**

Admission £8 by ticket paid in advance - includes all day refreshments and a light lunch

Please contact Ivan via [info@cambridge-woodturners.co.uk](mailto:info@cambridge-woodturners.co.uk) or on 01763 838662

**[www.cambridge-woodturners.co.uk](http://www.cambridge-woodturners.co.uk)**



are to celebrate the  
30th Birthday of the AWGB  
with an all day demonstration by

# Nick Agar



This demonstration is open to all interested woodturners and woodworkers.

A display of members work will be on display to view

Date: **Saturday 21st October 2017**

Venue: **Croesyceiliog CEC, The Highway, Croesyceiliog, Cwmbran, Torfaen. NP44 2HF**

Time: **10.00 am till 4.00 pm approx.**

Cost: **£12.50**

Contact: **Peter Bradwick on 07768 921109 or 01633 873640 – peterbradwick@btinternet.com**

Refreshments are available throughout the day

## Every Mishap Can Become A New Design Feature

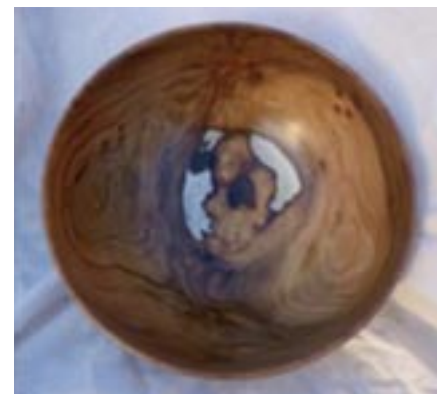
### Robert Perkin-Ball

Every mishap can become a new design feature so it is a good idea to have a "plan B" to use if things do not go as intended. I started out to turn a simple bowl from a "lump" of Walnut I had been given a few years ago.



All went well with shaping the outside, apart from a slight soft spot in the base. The reason for that soon became apparent when I reversed the lump and started hollowing the inside. The tree had been very old and during its life had lost many branches. The soft spot was in fact one of those branches which had been absorbed deep into the trunk and subsequently rotted away leaving no sign of it's passing – until now. To achieve the shape and wall/base thickness I wanted resulted in a series of irregular shaped holes right through the base to the chuck. What to do, consign a nicely figured bowl to the log pile or turn a problem into a design feature?

I chose the latter and adapted an idea from a previous Club demonstration, which had shown how pewter could be used in turning. For the pewter I melted a 50p Charity Shop beer mug. I wrapped the chuck in tinfoil to stop the molten pewter from running straight through and remounted the bowl.



The pewter, once cool, could then be turned to the thickness of the surrounding wood, inside and out, and the bowl finished. Care was needed to stop the pewter dust created from marking the surrounding wood.

All in all, an interesting exercise in adapting a Club demonstration and a salvaged bowl with an added design feature.







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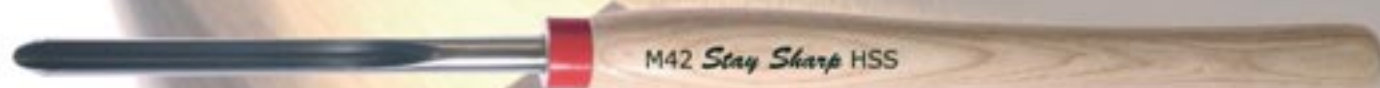
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