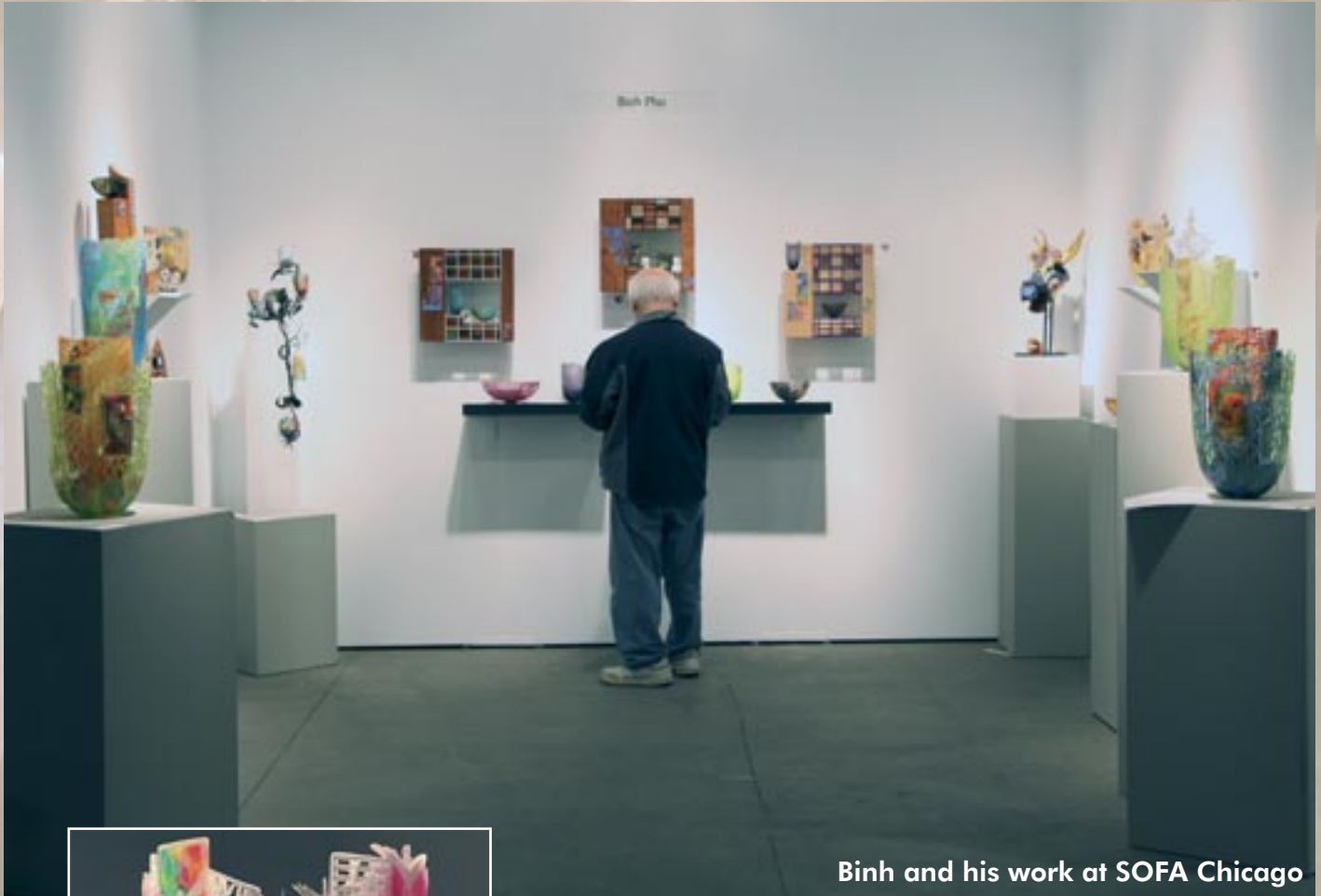


# Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Issue No 123

December 2017



Binh and his work at SOFA Chicago



## Heaven Can Wait

Cast glass, acrylic paints 13"h x 8"d is a piece he created recently, below is what he wrote about it on his website.

*When I was painting Heaven Can Wait, I was thinking about the human body, cancer and chemotherapy. It is not a "pretty" subject, but I thought about the beauty of the human body and how our systems fight to restore the balance and our health, the importance of our mind-set and the human spirit, which must all rise to the challenge. The red and white backdrop of peacock feathers represents the red and white blood cells, fighting to protect my dreams of life and the future, which are represented in the colorful panels. The chemotherapy will destroy the blood cells, along with the cancer cells - a battle that is waged within us, with our body, mind and spirit working together to prevail.*



[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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# Don't forget to renew your membership

Membership/Renewal Form on page 29

## 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.

## Revolutions

**Copy deadline for the  
next edition of  
Revolutions  
3rd Feb 2018**

## Front Cover

The late Binh Pho who died  
23rd August 2017  
greatly missed by so many.  
RIP Binh

See page 16  
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

Welcome to the last edition of Revolutions for 2017.

If you are an individual member you will have noticed that we have sent your membership card with this issue. At this point I can see some of you scrambling for the recycling bin!

This is a trial initiative which we hope to roll out for all our members next year. In the past, and for all the Branch members this year, our Membership Secretary has printed the cards and sent them to the Branch Officers to distribute. I know this has always been something of a bone of contention – for Branch Officers keeping them – and for us printing them!

So we have decided to adopt the model used by other organisations and send you your card and hope you will send us some money!

So, if you are an individual member and don't pay by standing order please make sure you send us your subs, or let us know you no longer want to be a member, then we won't have to send you a reminder letter. Payment details are on the letter.

### Seminar

You won't get far in this issue without seeing reference to the Seminar. We have a fantastic line up for October next year and the costs are very reasonable. We get charged £100 for 24 hours per delegate for food and accommodation – that's dinner, bed, breakfast and lunch, plus teas and coffees throughout the day. There is an additional £15 charge for Saturday dinner and £10 for Sunday lunch. We pass that through at cost. For people attending for the day only we are charged £35 including lunch, teas and coffees and again we pass that through at cost.

As I spend a lot of my time on the road in hotels I can confirm that this is a very good rate. The accommodation is excellent. We are able to offer a slight reduction for a couple sharing as they are all double rooms with around 50 twin rooms so you could also reduce the cost by sharing with a pal.

The Seminar is open to anyone, whether they are AWGB members or not. Please tell your friends and perhaps make it a holiday as well. We already have bookings including two from the continent as I write. I very much hope you will be able to attend and make this the best Seminar ever.

### Visit to Exotic Hardwoods

I'm fortunate to live just an hour's drive away from Exotic Hardwoods, one of our corporate members based at Ipstones in Staffordshire. This is a family business in the Staffordshire countryside and in September I took a pal and we went to see Kirk, Sarah and Luke with the view of buying a few pieces of Mopane for a thread chasing course I was running at the end of the month. Needless to say I spent more than I planned and had to pretend otherwise when I got home – phrases like "I've had it ages you just haven't seen it before" came to mind!





What a great setup! Kirk is planning on fitting out the main warehouse area where he has almost every exotic known to man plus some native timbers as well. He also does mail order.

Here's are a few pictures of my visit.

And finally....



May I wish you, your friends and family a very happy, peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year.

*Dave*

## Note

### Ise & Nene Valley Turners

From January 2018, Ise & Nene Valley Turners will be meeting at

Cranford Village Hall, Grafton Road, Cranford, Kettering, NN14 4JE.



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# The Origins of the AWGB

## Len Grantham

In 1986, Ray Key and Mick O'Donnell attended a seminar in America run by the American Association of Woodturners. They were both very impressed by this and on the flight home discussed the possibilities of staging a similar event in England.

They got together with several like-minded individuals, Dave Regester, Don White, Stephen Marchant, Toby Kaye, Bert Marsh, Cecil Jordan, Mike Scott to name but a few. Loughborough College was chosen as the venue since it was fairly central and had suitable facilities and accommodation. With Ray Key as the driving force and a lady from the college whose name was Margaret Lester who managed the administration and accommodation, the seminar was ready to go. Turners were engaged from the UK and the USA as demonstrators and the date was set. All that was needed now was to attract delegates.

It is important to appreciate that at this time it was not known just how many woodturners there were in the UK. There were only a couple of books on the subject and rarely more than the odd page or two in the woodworking magazines; you would occasionally see a woodturner on one of the trade stands at national woodworking shows. There was a choice of three lathes, Graduate (which most couldn't afford), Myford and Coronet. To the best of my knowledge there was only Craft Supplies and John Boddy selling tools, timber and other equipment, but I could be wrong.

So I hope you can see that this was a great leap into the unknown for Ray and his team.

An announcement was placed in one

of the woodworking magazines together with an application form which included a question: Are you in favour of having a national association for woodturners?

The response was extremely good and so in August 1987 we gathered at Loughborough for the very first International Woodturning Seminar.

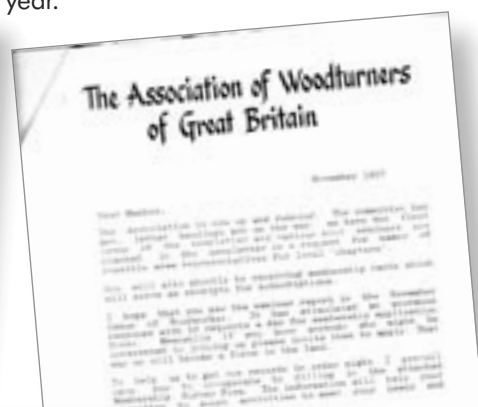
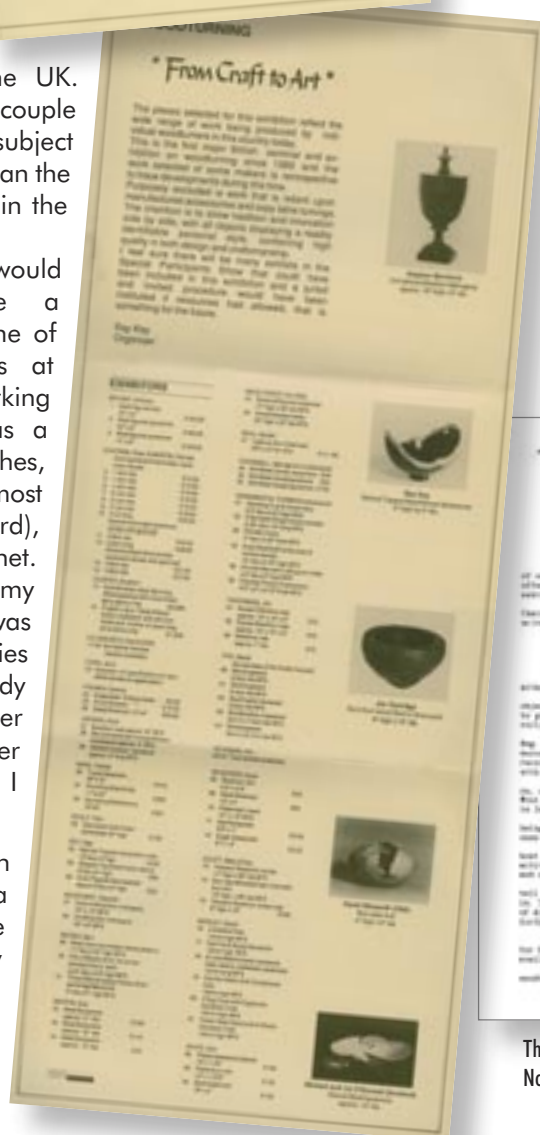
There were two displays of work, one of pieces by the demonstrators and one of the work of the delegates.

The seminar was a huge success with great exchanges of ideas and making of contacts. When you consider that woodturning is a very solitary hobby and before this time obtaining information, tips or exchange of ideas was almost unheard of.

At the final plenary session the delegates were told that there was an almost unanimous desire for the formation of a national association here in Great Britain. A constitution had already been drafted and Ray Key, Don White, Mick O'Donnell, Toby Kaye, Stephen Marchant and Reg Sherwin had agreed to form a committee, all that was needed now was a Secretary and a Treasurer.

The call went out to the audience for volunteers for these posts and Hugh O'Neill put himself forward to be Secretary and I volunteered to be Treasurer.

Thus the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain (though without this name at that time) was formed, and hence in turn the 30th Birthday Bashes' all around the country this year.



The first newsletter was November 1987.



## Great value - Seminar 2018

### Mark Hogan

I was chatting with some fellow members of my club (Ise & Nene Valley Turners) about the Seminar and my role dealing with Seminar bookings. I told them that, having looked at what is included, the cost of attending is really very reasonable! One or two of them asked me how this could be. I explained that, having looked at current hotel costs, £100 per night is often not enough even for a Premier Inn room, and of course no meals are included. So if two nights in en-suite accommodation would cost around £200, the whole seminar at £395 (with early booking discount) means you will get the chance to see TEN world class demonstrators

for £20 each – AND you get seven meals, from Friday lunch to Sunday lunch, included. Two of my colleagues were so impressed with this that they both booked before the week had expired!

So – if you have a birthday coming up, or if your loved ones are looking for ideas of what you would like for Christmas – why not drop hints about what an opportunity the Seminar is; you never know, you might get a useful contribution towards your ticket! Remember, to get the discounted rate you have to book by the end of March, with invoices for the balance being sent out next August.

I look forward to seeing you all there!



Harvey Meyer



Jean-Francois  
Escoulen



Mike Hosaluk



Max Brosi



Asmund Vignes



Les Thorne



Rod Page



Gary Rance

## 5-7 OCTOBER 2018 AWGB INTERNATIONAL WOODTURNING SEMINAR *Your turn to be inspired*

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under cover - for anything.  
Near Stone in Staffordshire ST15 0NL [www.yarnfieldpark.com](http://www.yarnfieldpark.com).  
Do take a look.

*We look forward to welcoming you to the best Seminar ever!*



Benoit Averly



Glenn Lucas

	Price	Early Bird Price*
Full weekend	£435.00	<b>£395.00</b>
Full weekend no accommodation or evening meals	£315.00	<b>£295.00</b>
Full weekend incl accommodation and meals with twin room for two people	£810.00	<b>£730.00</b>
Full weekend incl accommodation and meals with double room for two people	£810.00	<b>£730.00</b>
Friday attendance & lunch only no dinner	£90.00	<b>£85.00</b>
Saturday attendance & lunch only no dinner	£135.00	<b>£125.00</b>
Sunday attendance & lunch only no dinner	£90.00	<b>£85.00</b>
Saturday including dinner (no overnight)	£160.00	<b>£150.00</b>

**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



## AWGB International Seminar 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018

## Booking Form

The accommodation comprises en-suite double rooms, including 59 twin rooms, and there are a number of accessible rooms. We are pleased to offer a range of attendance options. Please select the quantity required. If you have any particular needs or requests please note them below. *(All costs include VAT)*

**Early Bird Discount applies if you pay 50% before 31 March 2018.**

Package	Description	Cost	Early Bird Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
A	Full Weekend incl Accommodation and Meals	<b>£435.00</b>	<b>£395.00</b>		
AT	Full Weekend incl Accommodation and Meals with Twin room for <b>Two People</b>	<b>£810.00</b>	<b>£730.00</b>		
AD	Full Weekend incl Accommodation and Meals with Double room for <b>Two People</b>	<b>£810.00</b>	<b>£730.00</b>		
B	Full Weekend incl Lunches, No Accommodation or Evening Meals	<b>£315.00</b>	<b>£295.00</b>		
C	Friday incl Lunch, No Evening Meal	<b>£90.00</b>	<b>£85.00</b>		
D	Saturday incl Lunch, No Evening Meal	<b>£135.00</b>	<b>£125.00</b>		
E	Sunday incl Lunch	<b>£90.00</b>	<b>£85.00</b>		
F	Saturday incl Lunch & Evening Meal	<b>£160.00</b>	<b>£150.00</b>		
Total Cost					

Name (as you would like it on your badge)	
Address (inc Postcode)	
Email address	
Tel Number	
Membership Number (if applicable)	
May we print your address and email in the delegate pack (delete as appropriate)	Yes/No
Please advise any particular requirements (diet, access etc)	

### Payment:

**Early Bird:** 50% deposit on booking before 31 March 2018, remainder due 4 weeks prior to the seminar

**Non-Early Bird:** 10% deposit on booking, remainder due 4 weeks prior to the seminar.

**NB** If you are unable to attend your deposit may be refunded at the discretion of the AWGB.

I have paid by cheque/bank transfer/international bank transfer (delete as appropriate). We are unable to take card payments by telephone. Card payments can be made on the website by PayPal or by sending a payment in PayPal to [awgbtrading@awgb.co.uk](mailto:awgbtrading@awgb.co.uk)

Signed:

Date:

Payment by cheque payable to **AWGB Trading Ltd**, or

Bank transfer to sort code 09-01-28, Account number 41132390 (use family name/2018 as reference) or

From overseas IBAN: GB75ABBY09012841132390 (use family name/2018 as reference)

Please send this form (with cheque if appropriate) to:

**Mark Hogan, 35, Berwick Way, Kettering, NN15 5XF**  
**Tel: 07907 180806 Email: [seminar@awgb.co.uk](mailto:seminar@awgb.co.uk)**



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**Lazy Susans**

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12" 14.26

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**Olivers Woodturning supports the AWGB**



# Southwest Representative Report

## John Montgomery

The AWGB 30th Birthday events have all taken place in the Southwest area. Of the 9 events in my area I attended 7 the other 2 events I unfortunately missed due to hospital admissions. All events went very well with good attendances. Since my last report I have attended an excellent event by Burnham Woodturners in September, they had an exhibition of members work and demonstrations going all day. A large number of visitors came round to view what was going on including the local MP for the area and all went away impressed. The event was held in the Church Hall in Burnham on Sea with plenty of room for easy viewing.

In October I attended the Crow Valley Woodturners event held in Cwmbran. They had an exhibition of members work and Nick Agar demonstrating throughout the day. It was a very good event although the drive back to Devon was horrific due to Storm Brian arriving, and causing high winds and turning the motorway into a river. At both events the AWGB banners were on show along with the electronic picture frame, advertising material and merchandise. I would like to thank both clubs for their hospitality.

The AWGB had a stand in September at Yandles Show, Martock with the gallery of competition pieces selected at Woodworks Daventry. As usual we had a large number of AWGB members visit the stand as well as members of the public. It is always good to meet members as it gives the chance to ask questions about the AWGB that they might normally not bother with.

The next show was at RHS Rosemoor in North Devon. This year the show was extended to 3 days and took place in brand new facilities from 13th until 15th October. RHS events are always well attended

and we had a large number watching the demonstrations and viewing the exhibition. Thanks go to Colin Simpson who demonstrated Friday and Liz Kent who demonstrated Sunday which left me to demonstrate Saturday and during lunch breaks. Thank you also to Pam, my wife, who helped man the stand on all 3 days and helped with set-up.



The final Show of the year for the Southwest area was the Woodworking Show at Westpoint Arena, Exeter over the 27th & 28th October. Again we had the gallery and demonstrations. The show was better attended than last year with a lot of members from the far Southwest coming along. We had a number of members demonstrate on the stand over the two days and I would like to thank them for their efforts. Thank you also to Craig and his team at Axminster Power Tools for kindly lending and delivering us a lathe and screen to demonstrate with, it was much appreciated. Pam again helped over the show period in manning the stand and packing away.

This will be my last report before the end of the year so may I wish you all a Good Christmas and Happy Turning in the New Year.

## Association of Woodturners of Great Britain



### Member Training

#### Demonstrator Training Course

##### West Yorkshire area

2 members required to join  
2 members already enrolled  
Course date to be arranged

##### Pembrokeshire area

3 members required to join  
1 member already enrolled  
Course date to be arranged

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

### Demonstrator Training and Tutor Assessment

Demonstrator Training is still popular and I am receiving enquiries on a regular basis. We are going forward with the course in the Dumfries area of Scotland on the 20th January with 4 members taking part. The Bracknell course was filled and took place in November and we have a full course at a date to be arranged in the Black Country area. I am still looking for 2 members in the Pontefract area of West Yorkshire to organise a course, also 3 members in the Pembrokeshire area of Wales.

Tutor Assessments have slowed at the moment after a very hectic spell, with a number of members reaching the required standard. We are still getting enquiries about this course which can be downloaded from the AWGB website. If you have an Apple computer or ipad you can access the course and run it from the website using Flash player app. Contact Paul Hannaby, our Webmaster, if you get problems and he will assist you.

There was an Assessment Day at the Max Carey Trust, Portishead in November and further assessments will be organised in 2018.

**John Montgomery  
Demonstrator Training & Tutor Assessment Coordinator  
e-mail [johnmontgomery@awgb.co.uk](mailto:johnmontgomery@awgb.co.uk)  
Tel: 01752 894083**

## Herts and Beds Woodturners Training Day September 2017

The hall where we hold our monthly meetings was booked from 9am until 3pm and after a fairly seamless set up the turners divided into six pairs; each pair, an experienced turner and a learner. Seven lathes were set up including the new Axminster club demo lathe.

The learners had been encouraged to bring their own lathes and tools, as this is what they would be using after the event. In one case the lathe brought in refused to give up its faceplate so the extra lathe came in handy.

We all started with spindle turning using Sycamore and by 10.30am the first beads, fillets, coves and parting cuts had been produced, along with some satisfied smiles (and even a captive ring!)

Tea and coffee were available at any time on a help yourself basis; lunch was a BYO or buy from the local shops. It was a very sociable with people sharing their experiences.

Then on to bowl turning, again using the Sycamore blanks provided. This was for many, the first time that they had tried this, so quite a new experience. The focus for both sessions was on tool manipulation and tool control to give basic skills and confidence that learners could take away, and with practice, enhance their turning.



There were a few issues with learners' equipment and these were addressed and mostly solved (the benefit of people using their own equipment)

All of the people involved were canvassed by email later for feedback on the day. All said that they had learned new skills and had enjoyed the day. There were some issues with timing of the activities, but these could be easily addressed should we do this again.

This type of one-to-one learning follows the pattern used by the Cambridge Woodturners, so a big thanks to them for allowing me to attend their session as an observer.

Big thanks also to the AWGB for the discretionary grant that covered all costs for the day.

As for the future – there was a fair amount of work involved in setting this up, but I do not see why we as a club should not do it again and cater for a mix of turning abilities with people asking for a particular technique or process and matching that with an experienced turner.

Thanks to all involved.

Bruce Edhouse - Herts and Beds Woodturners.

The Sycamore spindle and bowl blanks supplied by Paul Norcott, Home of Wood, Rye Harbour Road, Rye, East Sussex [www.homeofwood.co.uk](http://www.homeofwood.co.uk) 07957 942 452



## Little Sister Big Performance

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An interchangeable scraper (ref HS187B) also available



## Help for Heroes

Once or twice a year Stuart Mortimer opens up his workshop to 'Help-for-Heroes' chaps – or indeed 'chapesses' if they're available - from Tedworth House which is just a few miles from Grateley where Stuart lives. The course is invariably significantly oversubscribed, and the staff at Tedworth choose those who are to attend. One of these courses was held in November. Two of the students had done what I think it's fair to describe as 'a bit of turning' before; the other two had no previous woodturning experience.

Each course is from Monday to Friday inclusive. Stuart's priorities are 'Safety-First' with learning-and-enjoyment equal seconds. The general daily format is practising the basic cuts on a 2" x 2" blank followed by a project. The 'order of march' for the projects completed on this course is depicted in the accompanying photograph from left to right; the missing oyster-box was still being finished in the vacuum-chuck at the time the picture was taken.



Stuart was assisted by Sam Webber, Graham Kennedy and Clive Bacon, members of the Stuart Mortimer Woodturning Group who also live in the Grateley area. In addition, on one day Ron' Caddy spent an hour with each student making a pen which each of them took home at the end of the week.

I think the achievements shown in the accompanying photograph show remarkable progress, and just what can be done, in five days.

## Woodies in the Park

When the AWGB announced that there was a grant for £300, given to member clubs to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of it's founding it seemed a good idea to apply for it. The AWGB's intentions for the use of this money were quite wide ranging with club's being able to have that special Demo, or to generally promote the AWGB, the participating club and woodturning in general. We decided to try to take a wide view of the brief and came up with Woodies in the Park.

The plan was to have a marquee, have a display describing



the history of woodturning in general, the AWGB and our own club. We chose a local public park, a Sunday in August and set out to attract children who would hopefully bring along a parent or two. We entertained the children with pyrography, a colouring in competition and for the adult's woodturning demonstrations and a tombola. There was also a child sized Windsor chair on offer, in the prize draw.

We had a steady stream of visitors during the course of the day, with many of our members turning out to offer support. To give a contrast to the two powered lathes we had Simon Lamb, a well known local pole lathe turner come along to give a demonstration of how it used to be done.



We have to thank many people for their support on the day, our Chairman for finding the marquee and tables and chairs at a good price, another committee member came along with a huge generator for the lathes and the pyrography, the Park Rangers for their support and providing a lot of the wood for the turning and the overall willingness to help out.

Some of us brought family members along who were a great help setting up and clearing up later. Oh I nearly forgot, we had a wonderful table of members work with some exceptional pieces on display.

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## Turning the corner on the road to recovery; woodturning for wellbeing



Improving your wellbeing doesn't have to be about running a marathon, eating vegetables all day long or meditating for hours. Sometimes it's just about finding new ways to focus and relax; learning how to be your best.

The Help for Heroes Recovery Centre in Colchester has started offering their beneficiaries woodturning sessions. What was originally planned as a pilot once a month has turned into 3 - 4 sessions a month due to its success; nearly 100 people have attended so far with a handful of beneficiaries returning every session.

The sessions are guided by members of the Colchester Woodturners Club; all giving up their time for free in order to teach interested veterans how to turn wood effectively. They even bring along their own lathes and other equipment to ensure the best experience possible. The group have been running since 1996 and meet once a month at St Johns Church in Colchester where they often have demonstrations from well-known woodturners. It was a natural step for the group to work with Help for Heroes as they all have family connections to the military.

Alan Essam, Club Treasurer and Events Coordinator, said: "The beauty of woodturning is that anyone can take part; no matter what age, sex or ability they are. We even once had a gentleman attend with his guide dog. We find that with every session people's self-assurance increases and they stretch their abilities; moving from making pens which takes 20 minutes to jewellery boxes and goblets which takes much longer. Those who once felt quite isolated now engage more with the rest of the group and it's increased their confidence to return to work".



Melvin White from Colchester, beneficiary of Help for Heroes, started attending the Recovery Centre 3 years ago.



The 62 year old, originally from Leicester, served in the Royal Anglians and subsequently the Corps of Army Music. After 30 years of touring in places like Germany, America, Belize, Turkey and Israel an old back injury and problems which Melvin developed with his knees forced him to retire from his position as Band Sergeant Major. Melvin has been attending the woodturning sessions since they began.

"I did woodturning when I was in school but never really finished anything. It's very rewarding to make something useful and be able to take it home. If I'd been introduced to it earlier then I might have found a new career path. Woodturning helps improve my wellbeing as I find working with the wood quite therapeutic. It also helps reduce anxieties as when working on the lathe you have to concentrate very hard in order to not make a mistake. This focus means that all other worries go out the window in that moment".

A group of beneficiaries, with the help of Colchester Woodturners Group, are now working together to make a chess set for the Recovery Centre. Melvin White commented: "The chess set will be larger than normal so that those with prosthetic arms can grab the pieces without difficulty and if they're knocked then they won't fall over as easily.

It's nice to be able to give something back to those who have helped us".

Chavasse VC House in Colchester is one of four Help for Heroes Recovery Centres which aims to inspire, enable and support those who are wounded, injured or sick while serving our country. It encourages people like Melvin to lead active, independent and fulfilling lives while also supporting their loved ones. With an adaptive gym, an award winning reflective garden (Hope on the Horizon), a Support Hub made up of multiple charities and other organisations, a psychological well-being suite, en-suite bedrooms, family rooms and a creative studio the Centre has been specially designed to offer the very best recovery environment.

Colchester Woodturning Group would like to thank Thoroughgood Timber near Colchester who have donated wood, Robert Sorby who have donated pen making equipment and DJ Evans of Bury-St-Edmunds who have donated materials.

If you're serving or veteran wounded, injured or sick and in need of support to help you Be Your Best, visit Help for Heroes' Get Support pages. Did you know that you can also help raise vital funds for us or volunteer your time at events? To find out more visit Help for Heroes' Give Support pages.

For more information please contact: Ann Scott, Marcomms Officer East and Midlands 07972 774 224 or [ann.scott@helpforheroes.org.uk](mailto:ann.scott@helpforheroes.org.uk)





# After School Woodturning Club

## Alex Francis

Being Chairman of Inverclyde Woodturning Club and having a granddaughter who is keen on woodturning at Saint Columba's High School in Gourrock, I was approached by the school to help promote woodturning to 1st and 2nd year pupils at the school.



When the school was rebuilt there were 5 lathes supplied but unfortunately the technical staff, while very keen had only done a little woodturning in college, they decided they would like to run an after school club in woodturning and other crafts.



The school did not have chucks or suitable tools so we approached the AWGB for help and our Scottish Rep, Dave Willcocks came to meet with myself and the staff. Dave took our request for help back to the AWGB Committee and they kindly agreed to make a permanent loan of 5 chucks, 5 sets of tools and a grinding jig to the after school club.

At the first meeting we had 9 pupils attending and there are another 3 or 4 who have expressed an interest but were unable to attend the first day. All the pupils and at least 1 member of staff are joining the AWGB and everyone would like to thank them for their support in starting this club.



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4



4 Acrylic Sanding Sealer is water-based, so no flammability and no strong smells. It requires two hours to fully dry; patience is also needed in application but this will be rewarded with a great finish. Use with Acrylic Lacquer, waxes and Friction Polish.

5



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## Safety 'A little warning what not to do'

### Colin Smith - South East Representative

I have been woodturning for 35 years and in all that time I have been fortunate in only having 2 accidents that have needed medical attention.

The first was when on New Years eve 1995 I decided to reorganise my workshop. I moved all the wood out and lifted all the Bowl Blanks on to my workbench, measuring them and then putting them away on their new shelves. Two 12" blanks stuck together and the bottom one fell and broke 3 toes I should have been wearing my toetector shoes. Needless to say our evening was ruined. My wife still reminds me of the event 20 years later.

The second was when I was drilling pen blanks in the lathe and the drill got stuck in the blank, so I put the drill in an electric drill and holding the blank in my hand carried on drilling. You can imagine my surprise when the drill went through my finger. Hospital and tetanus injections - not nice.

We are told to use the correct tool for the piece we are turning. Use eye protection when turning. Make sure you have sturdy shoes. Wear the right clothing. Wear a face mask or respirator. All sensible advice.

I try to adhere to all the safety advice, but I got caught out at the end of September when I was turning a piece of WET Sycamore which had been cut in July. I had all my safety equipment, and had turned on my Dust Extraction System. I turned off the bark and noticed a black dust under the bark was also coming off like soot, I thought nothing of it.

I roughly shaped the wood and had roughed out the hollow. Wrapping the item in cling film to stop moisture loss. I went in for my dinner. 2 hours later I told my wife I was going out to my workshop to clear up the WET shavings.

Armed with a dustbin bag, smock, gloves and a dustpan. I was not using a brush or broom, just my gloved hands to lift the shavings into the bag. Within 30 minutes I was gasping for breath. I managed to get into my house and my wife called 999. The Paramedic was there within 5 minutes, and I was rigged up with a respirator, and given some sort of antibiotic inhalant. I was plugged into an ECG machine, blood pressure and pulse taken, then rushed into my local A & E and went through the procedure again, but this time far more thorough procedures were done. I had 4 lots of blood taken, another ECG examination, X-ray and more inhalant. 6 hours later, and still on Oxygen I felt a lot better, but very tired. I coughed up some disgusting stuff. The next morning I was allowed home, but I slept on and off for the next 3 days.

A week later I went to my doctors, and was told that fungus had started growing on my lungs. He told me to be a bit more careful as next time they might not catch it so early. The black soot was the fungi. I thought nothing of it at the time other than it was making my hands black. Just lifting the shavings off the floor was enough to stir it up.

That's the second time the NHS has saved my life. Thank goodness they are there.

I now do not go into my workshop without a mask on. I have made sure all dust is vacuumed away and my workshop has never been so clean. My respirator is fully charged and ready for use at all times. I bought a supply of disposable face masks for easy use when I am not turning.

Be SAFE.

---

## Thanks to AWGB

### Rob Sheehan

The North Warwickshire & Hinckley Woodturning Club would like to thank the AWGB for the £300 birthday grant.

The club meets at the Hatters Space Community Centre in Nuneaton, on the first and third Tuesday every month, from 6 pm till 9:30 pm.

We have about forty members and an enthusiastic committee led by chairman John Evans.

We used some of the money to get leaflets printed, advertising the club and its aim to promote woodturning in the local area.

We also set up a market stall in Hinckley to promote the club and the AWGB. This led to several new members joining the club. Small items were also sold, and the £130 proceeds were donated to the local air ambulance charity.



The remainder of the grant was used to pay for Emma Cook (The Tiny Turner) to demonstrate at the club.

Thanks again for the grant and keep up the good work







## **Member Training Workshops**

### **Paul Howard**

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

**Saturday 20th January 2018**

Beginners  
Back to Basics

### **Mark Hancock**

Unit 365, Springhill, Salters Lane  
Lower Moor, Pershore  
Worcestershire WR10 2PE

**Saturday 17th February 2018**

Intermediate/advanced  
Techniques of Hollowing a Closed Form

### **Andrew Hall**

5, Well Bank, Billy Row,  
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**Saturday 24th February 2018**

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**All available from the AWGB Membership Secretary (details on page 3)  
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# Binh Pho

## Dream, Transform, Live.

### Joey Richardson

The wood turning world is mourning the loss of Binh Pho, visionary, talented artist, tutor and friend. His kind and creative spirit, generously and unconditionally, has supported, influenced and inspired so many.



Binh relaxing

Binh was born in Vietnam in 1955, the year the war began. In 1969 Binh's father, Dr. Mui Duc Pho, was temporarily sent to the US to study, this ignited his dream that one day all his family would live freely in America. When Saigon fell in 1975 Binh's family escaped but he was left behind in the United States embassy. Refusing to except communism he was imprisoned by the Viet Cong. In 1978, after numerous failed attempts, he managed to escape as one of the boat people. The whole of Binh's life in Vietnam was spent in a country at war. Binh's dramatic journey from Vietnam to America carved his character and served as a constant reminder that humans are mortal. Embracing death, Binh, lead a complete life, full of purpose, love and enjoyment. He lived rather than existed, in a life filled with gratitude, appreciating the beauty of the world and his freedom which he never took for granted. Binh's life experiences informed his creative process, adding a profound and colourful complexity to his art. His amazing story and the inspirational autobiographical body of work he created can



A Home in Woods of Imagination - Binh Pho and Joey Richardson collaboration



been seen in his book 'The River of Destiny', a collaboration with Kevin Wallace.



Binh at the River of Destiny launch

Binh used his time wisely, focusing on the essential things in life, family, friends, love and work. He never seemed to sleep, he worked full time as the national operations manager for Eaton, a global power management company. Binh loved his family, each evening he would spend time with them; when everyone was asleep he would then go into his studio, turning and creating his magic, working into the early hours of each morning.

Binh did dream, he transformed his dreams and he lived.

He also transformed the dreams of others; his generosity of spirit in passing on his artistic skills and knowledge through mentoring, tutoring, lecturing and demonstrating all around the world has been invaluable. His work has transformed and redefined the field of woodturning and he has selflessly promoted and elevated other turners.



Festival of Fire



There is hardly a woodturner among the new generation that has not been directly or indirectly influenced by Binh. He has opened doors, broken down boundaries and invented his own rules. Incorporating colour, piercing, texture and mixed media to a field which had previously been dominated by traditional forms and the natural beauty of wood, he has made anything and everything possible. His vision in casting his wooden forms in glass and bronze has introduced a whole new collector base to the field of woodturning, raising its profile in the process.

In 2005, I trained with Binh as part of my Worshipful Company of Turners bursary award, it was life changing; When I doubted myself, Binh believed in me. Over the past twelve years I have benefitted from his vast depth of knowledge, enjoyed his humour, his kindness, his friendship, and had the great privilege of working and collaborating with him.



Binh Glass casting



Gateless Dream Cast glass and acrylic paint-SRH

In 2013 Binh and Kevin Wallace produced, "Shadow of the Turning", a fictional story with corresponding art work which toured numerous Museums across America. I was thrilled to be a part of this, collaborating on numerous pieces. This story is based around three words, Dream, Transform, Live. To me these three words reflect Binh's life, he not only did dream, he realized his dreams, he transformed so many lives and the field of woodturning, and he certainly did live, not one but many fulfilled lives.

In 2014 Binh starred in the Last Days in Vietnam, a 2014 American documentary film written, produced and directed by Rory Kennedy. The film was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature at the 87th Academy Awards which Binh attended. Prior to this Binh had met Stuart Arthur Herrington, Col, U.S. Army (Ret.) who was involved with the evacuation of refugees from the US Embassy. After promising all the Vietnamese inside the Embassy they would be evacuated Herrington got orders from Washington that 'Operation Frequent Wind' was over. Herrington had to obey orders and for years this has haunted him. Over thirty years later Binh shook Herrington's hand and thanked him for leaving him behind.

He said "I would not be the artist I am today if I had got on the helicopter, so thank you."

Binh's philosophical view and belief in destiny is why he has been so happy and successful in his life.

Binh donated a lot to charity. We collaborated on an auction piece, 'Dream within a Dream', to raise money for the Beatrice Wood Centre for the Arts. At the event, Rory Kennedy, showed clips of the Last Days of Vietnam, Stuart Herrington and Binh spoke. They joked about Stuart leaving Binh in the Embassy, and when Stuart left for a bathroom break, Binh pretended to follow him. Everyone had tears in their eyes but Binh still managed to make us laugh.



Dream within a Dream by Binh Pho and Joey Richardson

What Binh achieved in his 61 years was astounding; in a few years' time, he would have retired from Eaton and devoted all his working time to his art. What could he have achieved? Where would he have taken the wood world? I feel cheated that he was taken from us prematurely, that after all his struggles in life, cancer cruelly took him. He bravely rose to the challenge of fighting cancer and created several pieces whilst undergoing chemotherapy. He was very optimistic that he could beat cancer and was planning a book and exhibition on surviving, hoping to help and inspire others. Binh was a master in turning negative situations into positive experiences.

I visited Binh a few weeks before he died, he gave me a blank vessel to work on, our next collaboration. This vessel now sits in my studio, an empty soul. Since Binh's passing I have struggled to work, although I know that is the opposite of what he would have wanted. He has left a legacy of his art work, a legacy of love, warmth and joy but his greatest legacy is the number of people he has tutored, mentored and inspired. His passion and devotion has taken the wood turned world to a new dimension and one we need to continue in his honor.

One of the greatest gifts Binh has bestowed up on us is the inspiration to pursue our dreams. We should all turn and follow his path, and dream, transform, live.

# Now you see it.....

David Springett



MT00



MT01

Now here is a fun bit of turning, a magic disappearing ball trick. This simple idea, which is as old as the hills, uses a small amount of wood but will provide enormous fun and pleasure in both the making and the performing.

Just remember when showing this trick, first to lift the top with your right hand. This will show the ball inside. [Photo. MT00] The left hand will be holding the base and secret middle section. Replace the lid and, whilst saying a few magic words, without being seen adjust your grip so that this time your right hand grips both the top and secret middle section. When they are pulled apart for a second time, mysteriously, the ball has disappeared. [Photo. MT01]

You will need:-

A 125mm [5in] by 40mm [1 5/8in] square piece of plain close grained wood. Here I have used Sycamore.

A fine parting tool.

A 9mm [3/8in] gouge.

A 3mm [1/8in] round nosed scraper.

A small skew chisel.

A 3mm [1/8in] wide square end tool.

A Shelf tool rest. [Optional]

Card for templates.

Hot melt glue gun.

## PREPARATION.

Begin by turning the prepared blank to 40mm [1 5/8in] diameter. I have turned tenons at both ends so that the workpiece can be held in my chuck. You may not need to do this.

From the tailstock measure 40mm [1 5/8in] and mark a pencil line.

From that pencil line measure 5mm [3/16in] and mark in pencil, followed by a further 16mm [5/8in], a further 5mm [3/16in] and finally 34mm [1 3/8in]. See diagram 1.

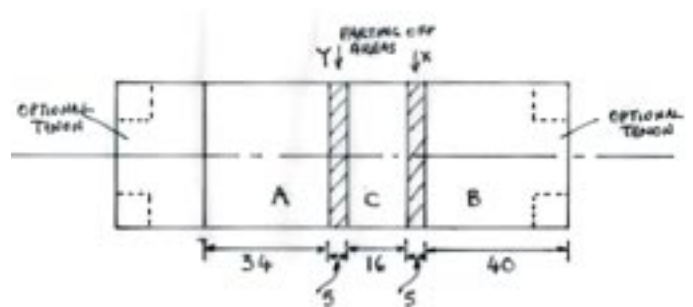


Diagram 1. Measurements for the layout of the blank.



MT02

MT02. Part off between sections B & C turning away the 5mm [3/16in] waste marked X on diagram 1. Place part B to one side. Face off the end of part C and support it with the tailstock. To prevent the centre marking the work place a piece of wood between the centre & work.



MT03

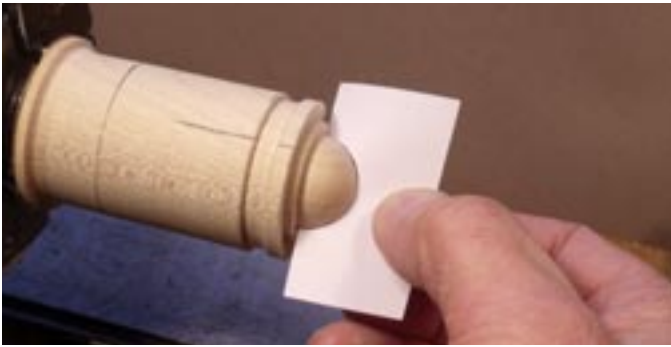
MT03. From the tailstock end of part C measure 11mm [7/16in]. Turn that marked area to 22mm [7/8 in] diameter. Measure a further 1.5mm [1/16in] and turn this to a precise 28mm [1 1/8in] diameter step. Now, from that mark, measure 3mm [1/8in] and turn, on the headstock side of that line, into the parting off area about 5mm [3/16in] deep, enough to delineate it. The tailstock can now be withdrawn.



MT04

MT04. Using a small gouge begin turning the 11mm [7/16in] long by 22mm [7/8in] diameter section to form the false half ball.





MT05

MT05. It takes a combination of judgement, careful checking and the use of a card template to create the illusion of a ball sitting in a hollow. To encourage this deception, create a fine line undercut with the tip of a parting tool at the point where the curve of the ball meets the face of the work.



MT06

MT06. When satisfied with the  $\frac{1}{2}$  ball shape part off, cutting into the area marked Y on diagram 1. Set part C to one side.



MT07

MT07. Remove part A from the chuck and replace it with part B. The parted-off face should be showing to the front.

Bring the shelf tool rest across the face of the work setting it so that the 3mm [ $\frac{1}{8}$ in] square-end tool is cutting at centre height.

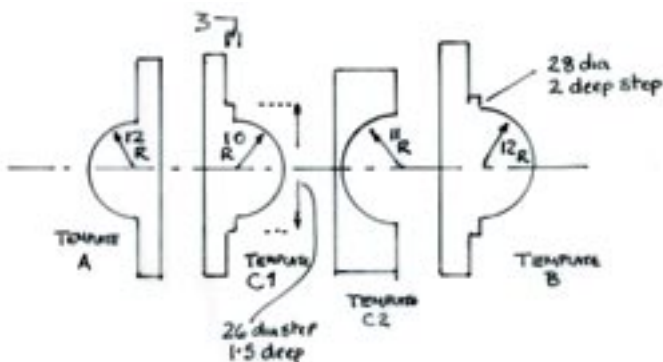


Diagram 2 Card Templates

Turn a 28mm [ $1 \frac{1}{4}$ in] diameter, 2mm [ $\frac{1}{16}$ in] deep step. It is better to leave the opening a little under size, it can be adjusted later if necessary.

Prepare card template B as shown on diagram 2. Using a 3mm [ $\frac{1}{8}$ in] round nosed scraper turn out an 11mm [ $\frac{7}{16}$ in] deep, 22mm [ $\frac{7}{8}$ in] diameter hemispherical hollow. Make sure that the small step around its edge is left clean and crisp.



MT08

MT08. Check the hemispherical hollow, and step, with template B making adjustments where necessary.



MT09

MT09. Test part C for a snug fit. Make adjustments where needed. The joint line between the two parts needs to be tight.



MT10

MT10. Push part C into part B bringing up the tailstock centre to hold it firmly in place.

Cut a piece of paper 9mm [ $\frac{3}{8}$ in] wide by 10cm [4in] long. Apply glue to one side and wrap this paper/glue 'bandage' around the joint line between parts A & C. Leave until the glue has dried.



MT11

MT11. When dry the paper 'bandage' will firmly support part C whilst its internal hollow is turned.

Set the 3mm [1/8in] square end tool on the shelf tool rest so that it cuts at centre height. Turn a 26mm [1in] diameter by 1.5mm [1/16in] step. When the step has been cut place the 3mm [1/8in] round nose tool on the rest, again set at centre height, and turn out a 10mm [3/8in] diameter hemispherical hollow inside the turned step.



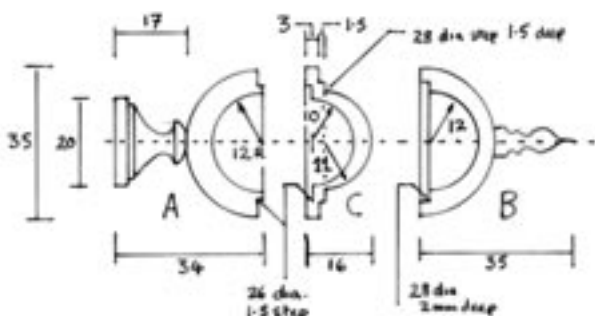
MT12

MT12. Use template C1 to check for accuracy. Remove part B [with C attached] then fit part A in the chuck making sure that it runs on centre and that the parted-off face is to front.



MT13

MT13. Turn a 26mm [1in] step 1.5mm [1/16in] deep on the exposed face of part A. It is best to turn this slightly larger in diameter then slowly refine the size so that part C when fitted in place, still joined with its paper bandage, is a snug fit.



Measurements for the three parts.



MT14

MT14. Test the joined parts [B&C] onto the turned step making sure that it is a good fit.

*Sidebar. It is essential that the joints are a 'comfortable' fit, not too sloppy, not too tight. The trick is far more convincing if the joints do not fall apart or, at the other extreme, need to be prised apart.*



MT15

MT15. When the fit is exact remove joined B&C then, using the round nose tool, begin to turn the 24mm [1in] dia. hemispherical hollow in part A. Use template A to check the shape.



MT16

MT16. Fit the parts together applying pressure from the tailstock. Carefully turn the whole blank to 35mm [1 3/8in] diameter turning away the paper 'bandage' which holds parts B&C together.



MT17



MT17. From the joint line between C&A measure 18mm [5/8in] towards the headstock. Mark a pencil line. From that same joint line measure 18mm [5/8in] towards the headstock. Mark a pencil line. These 2 lines mark the extremes of the central circular profile. Using eye, gouge and skew chisel turn a clean, rounded shape. Leave 7mm [5/16in] diameter at the tailstock and 20mm [3/4in] diameter at the headstock end.



MT18

MT18. Using the corner of a parting tool cut a groove into each joint line and one groove between them. This is now a guide for the distance between the rest of the grooves upon the curved surface of the work. The grooves help disguise the joint lines.



MT19

MT19. Turn the foot profile at the headstock end and begin the profile for the finial at the tailstock. Lightly sand and polish. Remove parts B&C.



MT20

MT20. Part off beneath the foot at the headstock angling the tool so that an undercut is produced beneath the foot. This will help the foot sit flat. Remove any 'pip' that remains on the underside of the foot.



MT21

MT21. Shape the remaining waste wood held in the chuck so that the top [part B] sits evenly upon it. Bring the tailstock forward to support the work. Hot melt 'weld' part B to the waste wood.



MT22

MT22. The finial can now be fully turned, sanded and polished. Either pick off the glue 'weld' or take the top, with waste wood attached, to a microwave. 10 secs. on full power will soften the glue so the parts may be separated. The cup and ball trick is now ready for some MAGIC, but do practice first for a seamless performance.



MT23

MT23. A selection of cup and ball tricks. Some old, some new and one painted. Top middle is one made from boxwood which I turned last year.

*Sidebar. If you decide to work this piece using imperial measurements it would be advisable to make your own measured drawings before you begin as the imperial measurements are translated from the metric measurements*

## Andrew Hall Member Training Day Crow Valley Woodturners

### Julian Cleak

Following a really first class Demo Day by the acclaimed master of hats Andrew Hall at the end of 2016 Crow Valley Woodturners decided to approach the AWGB and arrange a Workshop Training Day at the club premises in Cwmbran, South Wales.

The Training Day was eventually organised for July 2017, the club is situated in a Community Education Centre that has excellent workshop facilities with six lathes available so accommodating Andrew and students was an easy project for us.



Although a couple of the students had met Andrew before (I had met and talked to him at the Alexandre Palace Show in 2011) many had not so we started out with the usual introductions and safety advice that has to happen, but Andrews relaxed and professional approach to teaching made talking to him and asking advice so easy.

The Blanks that we were going to use had been prepared by the club Chairman Peter Bradwick who was in attendance as general helper for the day and these were handed out ready for mounting on the lathe. We started to do the prep work by cutting the waste band from the blank to create the hat shape. The day was progressing extremely well and we broke for lunch when all of our hats were finished on the



outside with the hat bands coloured with pastels pens and ready for hollowing.

The Community Education Centre is quite a busy centre with classes for all the usual skill subjects as well as a lot of the craft subjects that most people would want, Unknown to us the centre was being visited on this day by some dignitaries from the local council, The Mayor and Member of Parliament for Torfaen were very impressed by the work and facilities that the centre was able to offer and were quite fascinated by Andrew's wooden Hats.



Refreshed and ready to go again, the afternoon session was taken up with the hollowing of the hat and turning the rim. Now this doesn't sound like too difficult a task and I suppose in reality it isn't but the techniques used were very new to most of us. Our hats were turned to a thickness of about 3mm and we used a light source to get an even thickness from the outer rim to the top of the hat.



This was a very memorable day with Andrew's wit and banter making it even more enjoyable for everyone attending. From Left to Right: Kevin Daniels, Jeff Belcher, Graham Tucker, Andrew Hall, Glyn Morris, David Smyth and Julian Cleak

Our grateful thanks go to the AWGB for facilitating this and other Member Training Days across the country.

The East Herts Woodturning Association wish to advise their members and friends of the Sunday Demonstrations booked for 2018.

**25th March Stuart King**

**22nd July Andrew Hall**

**21st October Martin Pidgen**

**Venue The Pavillion, Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth CM21 9EA**

**Fee £12 including light lunch, teas and coffee**

Please contact East Herts Secretary Tony Hinksman on 01279 814337 to book place and supply any dietary requirements





## Scottish Borders Woodturners

### Peter Jackson

Scottish Borders Woodturners held their AWGB Birthday Bash on the weekend of 21/22nd October 2017. Demonstrations were held on both days to allow as many members and visitors to attend as possible and we were pleased to



welcome visitors from several other clubs.

On the Saturday we were entertained by Dave Willcocks, one time Chairman of Broxburn Woodcrafts Club and currently the Scottish Representative for the AWGB. After a warm up exercise in pen turning, using oak from recycled whisky barrels, and letting us into his secret finishing technique with

greaseproof paper (you had to be there!) Dave continued with a cigar shaped box and then a small bowl, introducing most of us to a new technique for texturing the edge of the bowl. Dave then donned his "austerity" hat and demonstrated a lidded ogee shaped bowl



where the lid was cut out from the inside of the bowl using a parting tool to save wood. Finally, after a request from our youngest visitor (13) Dave demonstrated a bottle stopper in the shape of a whisky barrel, thus coming full circle back to the topic of whisky! Sadly there were no free samples to follow up but probably just as well as we all had to drive home after a full and fine day of education and entertainment.

Sunday's demonstrator was Chris Tait, secretary for Northumbrian Woodturners, on a much anticipated return visit to the Scottish Borders. On a previous visit Chris had wowed us with his skills in turning square edged platters and we were similarly wowed this time to see Chris turn a square edged, lidded box in Sycamore with a Blackwood finial. Chris then chose a seasonal topic and turned, carved and coloured a pumpkin for Halloween - scary stuff indeed! This was followed by a scorched and textured bowl and a christmas tree ornament. Another great day of education and entertainment to round off the weekend.

Thanks go to the AWGB for their generous support, to Dave and Chris for providing us with interesting, entertaining and informative demonstrations and to the organisers (you know who you are!)

That's it from me, I'm off to raid the kitchen drawer for greaseproof paper....Shhh! keep it quiet!.



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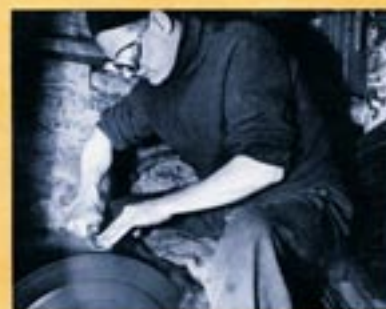
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# Waveney Woodturners' AWGB Birthday Bash

David Ritchie



"Garry gets a 10 from Len."

The Waveney Woodturners aided by the AWGB Birthday Bash grant held an extremely successful day at their Mutford headquarters on Saturday 30th September.

After advertising in a local newspaper (Lowestoft Journal) and again at a Club Exhibition in Lowestoft Library, the event drew 40 enthusiastic attendees. These comprised a mixture of club members, potential new members and interested members of the public, six of whom are now new club members.

Gary Rance, the quickest turner ever seen at the club, was invited to demonstrate and gave an enthralling, informative and, at times, humorous display, holding everyone's attention from the start. Although there were breaks for a delicious light



lunch and a couple of tea breaks, Gary still managed to complete seven individual pieces, starting with the informative use of a skew chisel, highlighting the bevel angle and the correct approach to maximise safety and tool control.

After lunch fun items were turned that would be great for children. These comprised a



humming top, the design of which dates back to the 1880s, and a tippy top that suddenly flips onto its head and continues to spin. Even on small items like these Gary remained positive and held everyone's interest.

A display of member's turnings then went under Gary's critical eye and his comments were appreciated by all, particularly when he praised the quality of the work.

The day was rounded off by having a committee vote (Strictly Come Turning style) as to whether or not the day was a success and whether we should invite Gary back... and guess what? He got four 10s, including a "10 from Len".

The event was made the success it undoubtedly was by the



committee and helpers arriving early to set up and subsequently clearing up. A big round of applause was given to the tea ladies (Margaret and Jennie) for keeping everyone refreshed.

For further information go to:

[www.waveneywoodturners.co.uk](http://www.waveneywoodturners.co.uk), or phone 01502 565865.

## Burnham-on-Sea Woodturners AWGB 30th Birthday Celebration

David Langan

The spirit of our AWGB 30th Birthday Celebration was to give the local general public an opportunity to discover the skills, techniques and artistry involved in woodturning, and hopefully open up the possibility of adding one or two new members.



The event took place in the Methodist Church Hall in Burnham-on-Sea where our small group (around 30





members) meets for our monthly demonstration club nights. News items in local newspapers and a mention on the day on BBC Somerset local radio encouraged more than 60 people to visit.

Club members were on hand to answer questions and we were also pleased to welcome John Montgomery, the AWGB South West Representative, and John Aitken "The Bowler Hatted Turner", both of whom were spotted tucking in to their lunch boxes before we had even opened the doors!



As well as the displays of a wide selection of members' work, there were demonstrations on two lathes throughout the day from George Foweraker (Chairman), Ray Blake and Bryan Milham.

An additional guest was our local MP, James Heapey, who spent some considerable time at the event expressing great interest and amazement at the level of artistry, ingenuity and skill that goes into our craft. Indeed, so much so, that there were fruitful discussions as to how he could help promote the AWGB at a national level.



Thanks to the AWGB, John Aitken and all who helped make the day a success. Whilst we didn't sign up any new members on the day, we extended a number of invitations for interested visitors to attend our next club night.



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# North Highland Woodturners Association celebrate the 30th birthday of the AWGB

C.F. Haughton

Early this year our association had a number of meetings to discuss proposals for the celebration of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain. It was decided that we would hold a one day event of introduction to woodturning for North of Scotland scouts. It was also decided that the project would be to turn a key ring. A large number of blanks were cut to length and drilled, Kits, health and safety equipment, safety goggles, dust masks and joiners aprons were purchased, ready for the day. Wooden centres were also made to make mounting the blank simple and to ensure that



tools could not come into contact with metal centres. As it happens the Castletown Heritage centre, where we are located, had an open day on Saturday 3

June 2017 for one week to celebrate their 15th Anniversary and we were invited to have a display at this event also, so we were able to have a whole week of celebration.

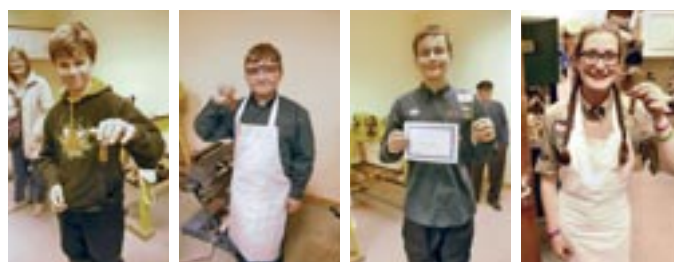
Phone calls were made to find a contact in the scout movement and a phone call was made to Garry Stronach Assistant Scout District Commissioner for Caithness, he thought that this was a good idea. Further phone calls were made and a date of 10 June 2017 was agreed as the North of Scotland scout groups were holding a district camp for approximately 150 scouts nearby that weekend.

The number of scouts was agreed at 24 scouts in four sessions of six scouts for approximately one and a half hours each session, however the number of scouts had increased to 26 which would mean an extra session. As it happens the week before the event the weather had been atrocious and the scouts had to locate a few miles away so they were only able to deliver 24 scouts on the day.



Each session started with a look at our extensive display of woodturning followed by a demonstration of what they were about to do. Each session

was started by ensuring that loose clothing, long hair etc was removed or at least made safe. They were then each allocated a lathe to suit their height and each scout selected a blank of their choice. A club member was at each lathe to supervise them, and assist them as necessary. They were given a free hand to turn a design similar to the demonstration or to their own idea, some were quite imaginative. On completion each scout was given a certificate. They all enjoyed their session and were proud of what they had accomplished.



To round the day off a reporter for the local newspaper John O' Groats Journal came to report on the event giving the event more publicity.

A good day was had by everyone, and after the clean up and rearranging our lathes etc ready for our next meeting we all went home feeling that we had done a good job of introducing woodturning to young people who may be encouraged to take up woodturning in the future, and that everyone had had a really enjoyable day.

**Association of  
Woodturners**  
of Great Britain



**Development  
and Training**

## 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

**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)**



## Birthday Bash Celebrations at Monifeith

Taywood Woodturning Club in Monifeith had an open meeting with guest turner and toolmaker, Alan Lacer from the U.S.A. demonstrating all day at the meeting. He was accompanied by his wife Mary.



Alan and Mary at Monifeith

The meeting was part funded by a "Birthday Bash" grant from the AWGB

Alan started the meeting by discussing the use of the skew, how to sharpen and hone it and by demonstrating his own particular design of skew. He showed how various catches can happen and how to avoid them and he really showed off the versatility of this tool and the fantastic finish which can be achieved straight from the tool. His warm up exercise was making tiny spinning tops using only his 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inch skew chisel.



Alan's tiny spinning tops

Alan went on to make an egg with the skew. He then showed how to make a hook tool by grinding a round bar to a taper, heating it, bending it and heat treating it to harden and temper it.



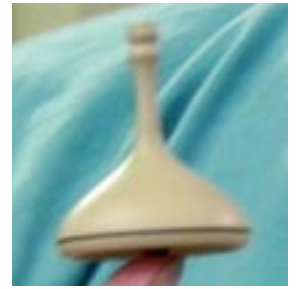
The hook tool Alan made

He then fitted the tool in a handle and demonstrated its use by making a box.



Some of Alan's boxes

Mary showed us some of her finger spinners and bottle stoppers.



Mary and Alan also judged the members monthly turning competition and gave some useful constructive criticism.

Alan generously donated the hook tool he made and a copy of one of his DVDs to the club. Alan had also provided a leaflet on selecting the skew, sharpening and honing it and 12 different cuts it can be used for. The leaflet also described the making of the hook tool. A copy of this leaflet was handed out to all 60 who attended on the day.



Mary and Alan with some of the members

All in all it was a great day with lots to be learned by our members and the members of Broxburn, Grampian and Strathclyde who joined us for the day.

Many thanks to Alan and Mary and to the AWGB for their help in funding the meeting.

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A photograph of the Robert Sorby ProEdge sharpening machine, which is a red and black device used for sharpening tools. It has a motor and a grinding wheel.

# Kings Lynn Woodturners 20th and AWGB 30th Anniversary Celebration

## Nigel Hellon

After nearly a year of planning and preparation the day finally arrived. The club opened its doors to the public to show off our talented turners work and skills and to invite the public to have a go and, hopefully, catch the "turning bug", and, of course, join our club. Refreshments were provided (beverages, biscuits and cake) and a chip van was on hand for the hungrier among our visitors over the lunchtime period.

So what happened on the day?

When the doors were opened the public were greeted at the door by club members and the view of the hall.



From the left, there were four members demonstrating on their own lathes and a cadre of members demonstrating on the club's lathe. In the centre was a large display of members' work, and, "more importantly" the refreshment area on the right.

From opening at 10:00 there was a steady stream of visitors from the public and fellow turners.

We also offered 'Have-A-Go' sessions to the public and there were several visitors who took the opportunity to try their hand at our craft. Each person having a go proudly went away with something they had made (albeit with some assistance). By all accounts these sessions were very well received and led to enquiries about meeting nights and membership.

Each of the members who were 'statically' demonstrating were allowed to display their repertoire to the public for sale (if they wished). An example is shown below.



The club is very diverse in turning styles and the central display reflected this very well.

Although this has only scratched the surface of the day, I hope that it gives everyone a sense of the club's 20th and the AWGB's 30th Anniversary Celebration from Kings Lynn Woodturners. A great day was had by all who participated.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all the club committee members and helpers for their hard work and support planning, running (setting up on the night before, taking down afterwards and, that dreaded of all jobs, cleaning down the hall) and making the day the great success it was. There must be a special thanks to the 'Ladies of the Urn' for their fantastic work refreshing club members, demonstrators and public alike throughout the day. It would have been a dry old day without you.

I would also like to offer my thanks to Colin Smith, AWGB Regional Rep., there to show AWGB support and to let the public see the wide range of turning out there. It really tied the whole day together.

Thanks also go to the AWGB for their grant to put on this celebration of our craft.

*(Pictures courtesy of Terry Shapland)*



**Association of  
Woodturners**  
of Great Britain



## Want a workshop in your area?

Let us know what you want and we shall arrange it.

There is scope for more workshops for 2018, therefore if you have a preference for any particular technique with a professional woodturner, or you know of a venue in your area that could host a Member Training Workshop contact Peter Bradwick and he will arrange a workshop to suit your requirements.

Workshops are a 'free member benefit', however candidates have a no obligation option to make a donation to the Development Fund.

**Please contact Peter Bradwick  
e-mail [development@awgb.co.uk](mailto:development@awgb.co.uk)  
Tel: 01633 873640**



## Application for Membership / Renewal of Membership

I wish to apply for membership / renew my membership of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain (AWGB). I understand that the AWGB is a company limited by guarantee, and if it is dissolved while I am a member or within 12 months after I cease to be a member, I will contribute such sum as may be demanded of me, up to £1 maximum, towards the costs of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the Company while I was a member.

### PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS

Membership Number (if already a Member)	Tick if you are applying for the first time
Title	
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Email (if applicable)	
Website (if applicable)	
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Junior Members please give your date of birth	
If you are applying for Family Membership please give the names of your family here	

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 October will last until 31st December in the following year, providing the full annual subscription has been paid

**Subscription rates UK members** Individual - £18 Family - £28  
Junior - if under 22 on 1st Jan of membership year - Free

**Subscription rates for overseas members** Individual members - £28 Sterling

Please sign at the end of the form.

## Payment Methods

Cheque payable to the AWGB.

Bank Transfer - please pay into our account as follows:

Santander, Sort Code 09-01-28, Account Number 32277785

Please quote your membership number and surname/family name in the reference field.

From overseas: IBAN is G875ABBY09012832277785

BIC code is ABBYGB2LXXX

Standing Order - please contact your bank and arrange payment on 28th December of each year quoting your membership number and surname/family name as the reference.

Please indicate your method of payment: cheque / direct bank transfer / standing order

## Gift Aid declaration - for past, present & future donations

**Name of Charity: Association of Woodturners of Great Britain Registered Charity 1150255**

Through the Gift Aid scheme, we can reclaim the tax on your donation or membership subscription. For every pound that you give we can claim an extra 25p from the Inland Revenue. We will also be able to reclaim the tax on any future donations you make.

☐ Please tick the box if you would like the AWGB to benefit from gift aid on your membership fee / donations

I would like the AWGB to reclaim tax on any eligible donations or membership subscriptions that I have made in the last four years and in the future, until further notice. I confirm that I pay the amount of UK income tax or capital gains tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify.

**Please notify the AWGB Charity if you:**

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- ❖ Change your name or home address
- ❖ No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Signed:

Date:

Please return to Mike Wilson, Bryn Elis, Glanhwfa Road, Llangefti, ANGLESEY LL77 7FA

Tel: 07801 446330 email: [membership@awgb.co.uk](mailto:membership@awgb.co.uk)

# All the best for Christmas

**A**s the years go by it seems to me that the festive season comes around every more quickly! This year is certainly no exception: it has been quite a year hasn't it? We thought that it might be worth giving you turners an early prod to start on your 'Christmas List' because, it seems to me, our nearest and dearest start buying gifts ever earlier and we don't want to be caught unprepared do we?

**L**et us take some of the pressure off you by making a few suggestions for the sort of products from our wide range that might make suitable gifts. Perhaps the sort of thing you might not otherwise buy for yourself.

**A**ll competent turners would agree that sharp tools are the very essence of good turning. At The ToolPost you'll find a host of equipment designed to give you an excellent edge on all your tools, with the minimum of effort and with perfect repeatability. Whether it is a Wolverine jig from Oneway, a Pro-Edge system from Sorby, a bench grinder or a Tormek system, we can supply.

**D**anger lurks in every woodturner's workshop because our activities lead us to create dust. Happily there is effective protection at hand in the form of a powered respirator. We offer the JSP PowerCap at a subsidised price to encourage more woodturners to take care of their long-term health. Simply put, this is the cheapest life insurance you'll even find - and it pays out to you, in your lifetime!

**D**rawing on their experience as precision engineers, the family business that is Carter & Son Toolworks have created a collection turning tools that would make the most hardened tool nut drool. Made from M42 high speed steel, these tools hold a supersharp edge like no other. If you only buy one tool this year, make it one of these. If Santa is very caring, (s)he'll buy you a sackful.

**I**f you turn on a smaller lathe, with a swing up to about a foot in diameter, then you'd undoubtedly enjoy turning a whole lot more if you were using tools designed specifically for use on lathes of this size. We thought it so important that we arranged for Hamlet to make the CompAcc tools to our specification.

We reckon you'll be as impressed as Walter Hall was when he tested them for 'Woodturning' magazine!

**N**ew wood finishing products are introduced frequently but one of our favourite methods is wood buffing. This quick and easy method of finishing not only imparts a controllable sheen to the surface but also gives a superb tactile finish. We offer a choice of systems from Beall, from Chestnut and from Oneway.

**&** if you are not attracted by the thought of buffing your precious wooden artifacts, then you might prefer to use one of the new generation of toy-safe, quick-drying, colourless oil finishes such as Steinert Drechsleröl or D & M Natural Oil Finish. Both are made from entirely natural ingredients and produce a hard wearing surface with a pleasing soft glow, enhancing the timber colour.

**T**he idea of being able to use jawsets from different manufacturers on a single chuck body was originated by The ToolPost with the introduction of The Versachuck. The Versachuck still offers that capability and combines it with a wide range of backplates to suit various spindles and a very attractive pricing structure. Now that really would start off your New Year with a bang.

**H**amlet are the producers of the specialist tool sets that bear our own name. We choose them because of their balance of quality and value. But if it's turning tools that you're after, we stock a huge range from the British majors - Hamlet, Henry Taylor, Robert Sorby and Crown as well as a range from renowned toolmakers around the world such as Hunter, Carter, Rolly Munro, Wiedemann, Kelton, Serious Toolworks, Oneway and our own BCT Tools.

**E**ach generation of new products holds promise of performing tasks better and faster. Our O'Donnell ruby and blue ceramic grinding wheels, long the choice of the cognoscenti, are proof of that.

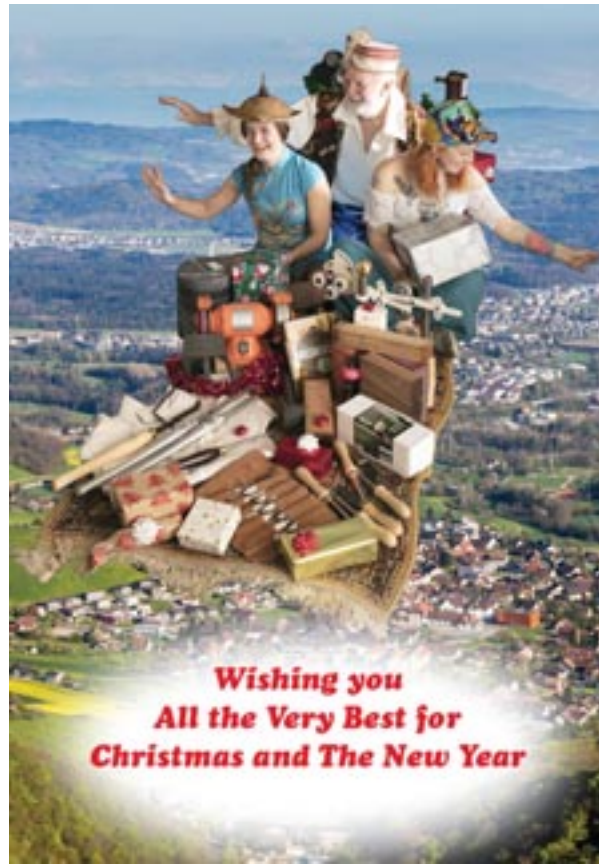
Perhaps the current star of the world of sharpening media is CBN - Cubic Boron Nitride. We continue to develop the range of both sizes and grades of CBN wheels we offer - sixteen currently and more to come.

**L**ong spindle work can be a real problem to turn as it whips around. A simple solution is to use a spindle steady to restrain it and we have a choice of products on the shelf to deal with the situation. The same issues can effect bowl turners when large, thin-walled bowls flex at the rim. Help is available for this issue too with the Oneway Bowl Steady.

**A**llowing a drill or router to be mounted and plunged in relation to the workpiece opens up new project possibilities. This control is possible by using the Oneway Drill Wizard. Now you can make good use of your lathe's indexing capabilities. Inlaid bowls, clock faces, stool seats, ring trees, cupholders and so many more projects will become a breeze. Or if fluting and spirals are more your cup of tea, then take a turn with the FluteMaster or SpiralMaster.

**M**aybe the New Year brings new sartorial style - or is it time to refresh the Santa theme? We can help with our smart and practical new ProDesign smocks embodying everything we always wanted in a turning smock - and they're very affordable too! Or perhaps a T-shirt emblazoned with The ToolPost Busy Bodger to show your allegiance?

**P**raise be if you've managed to stay with it this far. Christmas may still seem a long way in the future - but it is definitely closer than you think. Give the givers an early helping hand this year by deciding very soon what you'd like to be presented with on Christmas morning. Of course we are always willing to make suggestions - and will do the same for your partner, family and friends if they approach us on your behalf. And if deciding is just too-o-o-o difficult you can always suggest a ToolPost voucher which you can then spend with us at your leisure, when you have had time to ponder.



## The ToolPost

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## Introduction

The Certificate in Woodturning is designed to provide a training programme that covers all the basic skills to be competent at woodturning.

The Certificate is aimed at candidates with some woodturning experience, and the more experienced with no formal training of woodturning. Therefore the Certificate is primarily a training programme of the basic skills with assessment criteria.

**The Qualification** comprises:

- Training units
- Multiple choice question unit end tests
- Practical assessment

## Training Units

- Unit C 101 Workshop Safe Working Practices
- Unit C 102 Tools and Equipment - Maintenance
- Unit C 103 Wood Technology
- Unit C 104 Spindle Work
- Unit C 105 Faceplate Work
- Unit C 106 Finishing

The **'Training and Assessment Logbook'** is issued to the candidate on commencement of the award to record the training and assessment. When complete the training and assessment is verified by the AWGB.

On successful completion the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain and the Worshipful Company of Woodturners will award the **'Certificate in Woodturning'**

**Seven day Certificate in Woodturning Course... Open to AWGB members only.**

## Certificate in Woodturning

### Certificate in Woodturning

#### Training and Assessment Logbook



The Worshipful Company of Turners

Candidate Name.....

AWGB Registration Number.....

01/14



Venue	5 Well Bank, Billy Row, Crook, <b>COUNTY DURHAM</b> , DL15 9SP	
Tutor	Andrew Hall	
Dates	April 12th - 13th - 14th - 15th	May 25th - 26th - 27th

An additional induction day prior to the start of the course may be required. Candidates would need to have some woodturning experience before commencing the seven-day course.

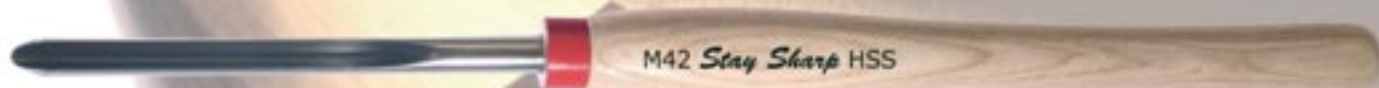
The course is part-funded and sponsored by the AWGB and the Worshipful Company of Turners. We expect four candidates to attend the seven day course each paying £250.

More courses will be announced in future editions of *Revolutions*, also go to the AWGB website for further details and application forms.

Or contact **Peter Bradwick**  
e-mail [development@awgb.co.uk](mailto:development@awgb.co.uk)  
Tel **01633 873640**

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