

# REVOLUTIONS

Issue No 20 January 1992

The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain



## Chairman's Report

Well, here we go. My first Chairman's Report. I guess the style will be different from Ray's, but the intention the same: to keep you, the member, informed as to what is happening in your Association and what your Committee is doing. As I am still just for the time being the Branch Co-ordinator, this report will be a combination of Chairman's notes and Branch notes.

I know I have said it before, but just once more, Thank-you Ray Key, you are going to be a hard act to follow. I must also say that I am most gratified that Len Grantham and Hugh O'Neill have remained on Committee as Treasurer and Secretary respectively. Their contributions have been and continue to be vital to the well-being of the Association.

Your new Committee had its first meeting on 27 October, with the main items being to allocate the day to day activities to 'Volunteers'. I was pleased that all the Committee members, newer and older, got 'stuck-in'.

Your Committee has many matters to consider. There is the age old question of so called dual-membership: this is being looked into by Jan Sanders, and will in the near future result in a Working Paper being presented to the Committee. Meetings of the Committee also now begin to present problems. The Committee members are now scattered to near the corners of the country, and meetings in terms of costs and attendance may cause a rethink.

Committee member Martin Turner has taken up the mantle of Exhibitions (not Woodworking Shows). His experience in this area will be an asset and in due course we may well see this heading turned!!! into a reality.

We now have a new Chairman for the Training Sub-Committee, Ken Spencer-Mills. There may be one or two other Sub-Committee member changes. However, by the next Newsletter there should be more to report.

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answering machine!

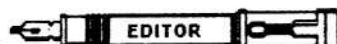
## Chairman's Report cont...

Now to Branches. A new Branch Information (Start-Up) Pack is now in Draft Form. The final version should be ready to send out to all Branch Secretaries before the year end. So if any Branch Secretary has not received a copy by end January 1992, then drop me a line.

Somewhat overdue (or perhaps not if you think about it) is another Branch Secretaries National Meeting. My calendar has been rather full this year. Given the previous paragraph I shall now wait until the new Information Pack has been distributed and discussed at a Branch level or meeting before setting up the National Meeting. By the way, if any Branch Secretary roughly mid-country, knows of a suitable meeting establishment, seating say 60, and costing virtually nothing, then drop me a line and let me know.

Well, that's about it for now, but please remember - this is your Association, so if you have any ideas or suggestions (polite!!) then let me have them, in writing please.

## Editorial



Hello and welcome to another issue of *Revolutions*. Thank you to all those branch organizers who took the trouble to complete the questionnaire and return it to me; thank you also for the comments which many of you also sent. I will attempt to ensure I meet as many peoples wishes as possible!

We once again have a full twelve pages, if we are to maintain what is four pages more than the usual number, then I am reliant on members sending in articles, profiles, letters and tips. Articles should be about 250 words long with a photo if possible. Profiles about 150 / 200 words long. After all, this is your newsletter and it should reflect what is going on and being discussed at branch level, and what is of interest to you.

From your letters, I know that there is an interest in computer technology - and this is borne out at my local branch. How do members feel that this can serve woodturning - and in particular, say, communication between us. Let me know!

In the last issue I referred to John Tappenden as Mike. For those of you who don't know John, he is our Business Sponsor Organizer whose task it is to liaise with woodturning and related companies, and keep the AWGB in their minds! Apologies John! Until next time, good turning!

## Helpline!

**A Finney** 15 Drumska Road  
Balleymoney Co Antrim  
Northern Ireland BT53 7JB

Mr Finney is a hobby wood turner studying for a BTEC National Diploma in Engineering, which involves him in designing/ building a bowl turning lathe. He also needs information on the history of woodturning and any other relevant information. Any one who can help please write to him direct.

## For Hire!

The association has several services which branch secretaries may wish to take advantage of. There are colour slides of both Loughborough and Hay on Wye exhibitions; videos of Del Stubbs and Richard Raffan; and equipment for demonstrations, all for hire. Dave Reeks has the details. Contact him at Rouges Roost Heath Road Weybridge Surrey KT13 8TL (*full details next issue*)

## Spotlight on the President!

## Ray Key

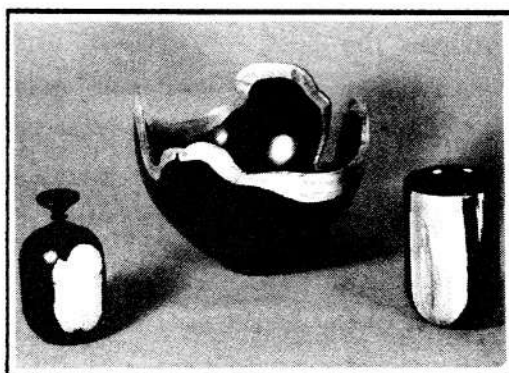
*The A.W.G.B. has elected its first president, Ray Key, in acknowledgement of all the work he has done for the Association. Revolutions would now like to acknowledge Ray's important role in the success of the organization by offering this profile of him:*

**Ray Key** came to wood turning via other mediums and experiences, as most turners do. Whatever the medium worked in, Ray practised and perfected skills. His skills in pattern making, and the turning element in this, he brought to turnery; it was his move to Chrysler Styling Studies, working in clay, which brought the dimensions of form and design to his practical skills.

Ray also absorbed the influences of Geoff Peters and Peter Child and in 1965 he purchased his first lathe. With his usual application to detail and perfection, Ray studied Frank Pain's book, reading and re-reading it as he practised his methods. It was the work of Dennis French, John Trippas, George Sneed, and later that of Bob Stocksdales and David Pye which caught Ray's eye as he moved into turning full time.

Ray valued the supporting role his wife, Liz, played as he launched into tableware to make his living. Ray's opinion that this

was the way to make a living by turning in Britain has not changed. Nevertheless by the early eighties Ray could see his way forward in the making of individual "one of a kind" items. Ray describes "idealism giving way to a large dose of reality" as he concentrated on individual



**African Blackwood Group**

pieces. Britain does yet not support the notion of the artistic turner, as is witnessed in America, and Ray has no wish to be a starving artist!

Despite this, Ray expanded into workshop teaching, exhibitions and writing. He has an impressive list of exhibition venues, which includes the British Craft Centre, London; Museum of Wales; the Quercus Gallery, Edinburgh; and locations in America such as Los Angeles and Boston.

Ray also is known for his lecturing and demonstrating over a period of ten years, in Germany, America, New Zealand, Ireland and Canada. It would be fair to say that Ray has

demonstrated his art and exhibited his work in more countries than most of us could contemplate in a life-time! Avid readers of the woodworking press will not need reminding of the numerous articles Ray has penned or the books to his credit. Ray shares ideals with David Woodward, in that he wants woodturning to be afforded the credence offered to ceramics and glass.

What better person to represent us internationally? Who better to lead us into a new era of turning in Britain? Ray, bemused by his elevation, says that he is not sure what a non-executive President means, although he finds it quite an honour! He suspects it is rather like Dale Nish's description of exotic wood i.e. an ordinary piece of wood a long way from home! He feels that his position could be described as an ordinary member with an exotic title! Without doubt, we ordinary members, welcome his Presidency and its exotic influences on our association!

**For branches who would like to book Ray, he can be contacted at: 'The Firs' 53 Western Road Bretforton Nr Evesham Worcs. WR11 5HW**

Competition winners, F.E. Bishop and Dr. G.W. Thompson, rightly spotted Ray in exotic locations flying the AWGB flag!

## The Candlestick

The description "candlestick" goes back so many years and is in such common useage that it is impossible now to restrict its useage to the conical pricket type which was the ultimate development of tin spike or pointed stick onto which a candle was formerly impaled. Latterly the socket has been preferred.

I think that the word candlestick must be looked upon as a generic term covering not only the earller conical pricket type and the cylindrical socket, but also the hand candlestick which included any kind of portable candlestick and implies some sort of handle. These latter were usually modest in style, not high as in flat candlesticks.

Wood was never deemed a suitable material for making candlesticks unless the sockets were metal lined, otherwise when the candle reached its end the waxed wood became a torch! In spite of this,

wooden candlesticks

were found in humble homes because they were easy to make and cheap. Those earlier than the 16th century in the simple form do not survive. But wood did come into fashion for candlesticks in the 1700's and as these usually had their sockets protected by a metal sleeve, quite a number have survived.

Woods used have been gilt pine, pearwood, mahogany, ebony; after 1800, oak, walnut and lignum vitae can be found.

The upper end of candlesticks often incorporate a saucer or bowl to catch the droppings. If this saucer can be detached for cleaning it is known as "a save all". For anyone who wishes to know more, there is a great deal of information of the subject, and a visit to your library might be well worthwhile.

**John Holyoak**



## Spindle Turning

**Spindle turning** is often associated with furniture production, not gallery work. But, make no mistake, good spindle turning requires all the skill and expertise of artistic turning. Frank Pain is regarded as the definitive authority on spindle turning; leastways he is the turner many of us have looked to for guidance and technique in our early days of turning! Pain describes his spindle cutting technique as

"cutting the wood the way it likes to be cut".

Of the present day turners, three spring to mind for their spindle work - Reg Sherwin, Nigel Voisey and Ray Jones. Ray is the only turner I have seen who can cut a screw thread, in a spindle turned piece, with a woodcarvers V gouge! Ray says that there are three basic shapes to be cut in spindle turning, once mastered the rest are merely variations!

In the main he uses three tools, *in carbon steel!* roughing gouge, spindle gouge and skew chisle to achieve his splendid results. Ray must be one of the few remaining professionals who still prefers carbon steel.

If you want to tackle candlesticks, or any aspect of spindle turning, it is well worth getting Ray, Reg or Nigel along to demonstrate to your branch. Or contact them for individual tutition.

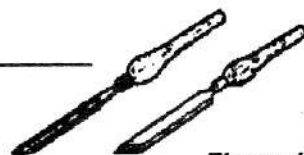
Ray Jones  
149 Cherry Sutton  
Hough Green  
Widnes WA8 9TJ

Reg Sherwin  
The Woodturners Workshop  
Avoncroft Museum of Buildings  
Bromsgrove Worcs B60 4JR

Nigel Voisey  
44 Heol Powis  
Birchgrove  
Cardiff CF4 4PH



## On Visiting - Ashley Iles



A tools works in the middle of the flat agricultural padocks of Lincolnshire? Most people will have heard of the family firm of Ashley Iles and the lucky few may have visited the works. Ashley Iles began as a one man business in 1949, when Ashley set up his own business, in Sheffield. The firm moved to Lincolnshire in 1967 when suitable premises for expansion could not be had in Sheffield. How different a picture this would be today! The business still remains in the family today with Anthony and Barry Iles now running it. The West Pennine Branch made a recent visit to see for themselves tool making by traditional methods.

Barry Iles is himself a turner by inclination - so much so, that at one time he personally turned all the handles for the firms tool production! Barry used a Wills automatic or an old wooden bed, single speed pattern makers lathe. Handles are now bought in - Barry though continues to turn on his own personal lathe using his own H.S.S. tools. His personal involvement in turning keeps alive his interest in developing the high specifications of tools which turners demand. Recent additions include the oval skew (3/4 & 1 1/4) and a 3/16" diamond parting tool, to an already enormous range of turning

tools. Professional turners also look to Ashley Iles to produce tools to their own specification.

A visit to the forge is an exceptional experience, with Anthony explaining the production methods as workers hand forge, grind and polish the tools. Production is now half H.S.S. and half carbon. H.S.S. has taken over from carbon but as other manufacturers discontinue carbon tool production, Ashley Iles continues to meet market demand for it whilst retaining traditional forging methods. The high speed steel is bought in, in rods, from Sheffield, although it may originate in other countries. It is easier to produce a finished product from H.S.S. which also holds its edge longer, although it may take the turner longer to produce a sharp edge.

It is interesting to note that it took several time-consuming processes to produce the tang on a woodcarving tool, as this must stand up to the continual blows of a mallet. Not so the turning tools which being produced from rods of H.S.S. retain their roundness, at the holding end, and fit easily into a pre-drilled hole in the handle.

There is also the opportunity to examine, and purchase from the range of tools; to have your own tools re-ground professionally (whatever the make); and to visit the old tool store run by Ashley.

*Visits can be arranged by contacting Barry on 07903 372*

### Norfolk Folklore by Treen

I was speaking to a local land agent and we were discussing old customs of Norfolk which have died out. Apparently in days of yore each time the wife of a forester gave birth to a male child, the forester was entitled to go into the forest and cut an oak tree for his son. When his son was ten years of age, the tree would be cut up and put in stick; when the young man was twenty one years he built his house with it.

### Contributions

*Contributions can now be accepted on 3.5" disc (MSDos) in ASCII; 3" & 3.5" discs (C/PM) in ASCII & Locoscript; audio and dictaphone tapes; and the usual A4 paper.*



*Branch Reports are an important part of Revolutions.  
Please send in your contribution to the editor. Let her  
also know of future events.*

**Kent** branch are planning a mini Loughborough, writes Dave Bates. Member Bill Cardon has come up with the idea but it is still in the planning stage. Kent is a very lively and active branch; if their own programme is anything to go by it should be an excellent event. Revolutions will be bringing you the details.

**Cumbria** branch reports that all of its 28 members are also AWGB members. John Sanders reports that this new group is now well established and has even got a grant to assist in its running from Northern Arts! The branch also organized a successful weekend workshop featuring Ray Key, with local firm Kendal Tools and Machinery loaning equipment and premises.

**Avon & Bristol** branch were recently donated dyes and bleaches by Merryll Saylan, after a weekend of her demonstrating to local members. This prompted the organization of a competition for wooden fruit, in a bowl, in full colour! Bob Barrett doesn't say if anyone managed to win

the customary bottle of wine! **Surrey** members took up the challenge of turning an object(s) from a piece of 2"x4"! There were three winners: Brian Upton produced a thimble and needle case; Bob Weir a miniature standard lamp (and drawing!); and Mike Morley four nested boxes. Members, Bob French and Mike Morley, have also been involved in demonstrating the craft of turnery at The Camberley Exhibition.

**Scotswood** - Jean Burhouse Furniture Maker, is now the home of the branch. At their last seminar, members travelled as far as 100 miles to see Tobias Kaye demonstrating his "inside-out" turning. Toby, who writes about his technique in this issue, inspired members; Brian Page writes that it was only the Scottish dourness which prevented spontaneous outbursts of applause!

**Wessex** branch held an informative meeting on Control of Substances Hazardous to Health, with speakers from A & H Supplies, as part of their action packed programme. Ken

Tettmar has sent in detailed notes on the talk, anyone wanting a copy please send a s.a.e.

**Hereford & Worcs.** report that they have been involved in a month-long display of their art at the Droitwich Heritage Centre, which was seen by 1500 visitors. During the month Reg Sherwin gave several demonstrations to packed audiences.

**Norfolk** are planning to hold a day seminar with demonstrators and trade stands, at Fakenham, 15 August 1992. There are excellent facilities and parking. Cost: £20. If interested contact Alex Harnes 0362 860404 Elmham Rd, Beetley, Dereham Norfolk NR20 4BW

### Members News!

**Graham Colyer from Somerset** writes: At the Loughborough seminar, there was a discussion session about business methods. "Write your own script," I said, "with a story line and full details, and send it to the local press". I did this later and a photographer came, and eventually it appeared in the local paper. The story was thoroughly mangled, but all I have to do now is sit back and wait for the orders to flood in!!

*Sounds a bit like the experience Jan Sanders had with Woman's Realm!*

## Branch News



### New Branches

**Mid Glamorgan** F.E. Bishop, of Aberdare, writes that he hopes there will soon be a branch starting in his area. Mr Bishop would also like to know of any firms offering discounts to members in his area. Or does anyone know of cheap supplies of timber, machinery etc.?

**Cloucestershire** Dave Martin writes that that branch now have 91 members, who are all encouraged to joined the AWGB! They also produce a very professional looking newsletter and have a full programme of activities.

**West Manchester** Geoff Grundy is pioneering this new branch who are now meeting regularly. Give Geoff a ring for details of their programme.

**Warwick** Pole lathe turner Frank Haliday is starting a branch. They hope to meet at the Mill near Stratford. All woodies in the area should get in touch with him through the contacts column.

**Dorset** Dave Winsland writes that a local branch has recently formed for members in Dorset. Eight members attended the inaugural meeting, and seven others pledged their support. They hope to have a regular meeting place at Walford Mill Craft Centre in Wimborne. Dave urges members who live in western Hampshire to also join them.

**West Pennine** now have a regular home at Chamber House Farm, Heywood, Rochdale, as numbers have grown. Saturday visitors to the urban farm got a surprise recently when they found Ray Jones demonstrating the art of spindle turning in the farm's large greenhouse!

### Contacts

#### Dorset

Dave Winsland 0202 418237  
2 Stourfield Road  
Bournemouth BH5 2AR

#### Warwick

Frank Halliday 0926 641508  
9 St Peters Rd  
Kineton Warwicks

#### West Manchester

Geoff Grundy 0942 870695  
Meets Jolly Naylor Atherton  
3rd Thursday 7.30

#### West Pennine

Stuart Dean 0706 364955  
Meets Chamber House Farm  
First Friday 7.30

#### Gloucestershire

Dave Martin 0594 510514

AWGB Badges are available, with our Logo, in Brass and Black Enamel. Send £2 to Mac Kemp, 41 Tanglyn Ave, Shepperton, Middlesex, TW17 0AD.  
Cheques payable to A.W.G.B.

### Future Events

**Cumbria** 18 January  
Training Video  
15 February Ron Green  
Miniature turning  
21 March Allan Batty  
Mini-seminar

**Kent** 13 February  
Pete Young Mushrooms

**Norfolk** 19 February  
Spinning Wheels Colin Hirsh  
18 March Talk by a  
Forestry Commission Rep.  
22 April Members Work

**Kent** 13 & 14 March  
John Hunnex

**Wessex** 31 January  
Liberon finishes  
29 February Wembley  
Practical Woodworkers  
27 March Demo & Talk  
Sand Blasting Wood

**Scotswood** 1 April  
Yet another quality event!

**Surrey** January A.G.M.  
and Loughborough slides  
February Bob French  
Demonstration Lathe and  
Mystery Item to be turned!

**West Pennine** 7 February  
Polishes & Finishes  
6 March A.G.M. & Dust Extrac.  
3 April Turn a Box

## Inside-Out Turning!

The technique of turning spindle work inside out is one that a furniture designer and I developed from an idea shown by Del Stubbs at the 2nd National Seminar.

Stephen Hogbin, the Canadian sculptural woodturner, seems to have been the originator of the technique, which involves cutting finished work into four pieces along its axis, revolving each piece through 180 degrees, and regluing it. Del Stubbs had used this technique to produce a most unusual signpost and showed a slide of this at the seminar. Once the four pieces are reassembled, all the turned parts are on the inside, leaving windows into the interior.

The development that Frank the Furniture and I have made on this idea is twofold. Firstly remounting the piece and turning it a second time, so that the outside as well as

the inside are turned. Secondly, producing a scheme for predicting the shape of the windows created by cutting and revolving the first turning so as to bring the same into a designed relationship with the second stage of turning. The process of cutting and turning so that the outside becomes the inside, I have called involuting or involution, so this is called involuted turned work.

I have explained how to do this in detail in an article published by 'Woodworker' in Autumn of 1990. Should you not have access to this back-number, I could send you a copy of the article. Various branches of the Association have booked me for a demonstration or a masterclass, either of this technique or in making the musical bowls I have developed, or other work. I will also be arranging masterclasses myself from



time to time. If you would like information about dates and locations, would like to book a masterclass or demonstration, or would like a copy of the article, please write to me. Cost of photocopying and postage on the article is £1. Tobias Kaye, Whites Cross, Lower Dean, Buckfastleigh, Devon TQ11 0LS.

## Members Directory

The Association has received a number of requests for the names of members who would be willing to undertake work both on production and individual (one-off) basis. At present, answering these enquiries is clearly a hit and miss affair based on personal knowledge. In order to reduce the element of chance (as far as possible) the committee has decided to draw up a "Directory" of members who would be willing to undertake such

commissions.

The committee will not verify the bona fides of enquirers nor the standard of the work which members undertake - the aim is simply to produce what is required. If you would like your name to be included, please complete the enclosed form and send it to: **John Vining,**  
**9 Mount Field, Faversham, Kent. ME13 8SZ**

## John Vining Writes



## Members Profile



*This is your section. Does your branch have an interesting member, someone other members would like to hear of? If so write to the editor.*

**Hugh Aviss**, one of our members in Crowbridge, East Sussex, took up woodturning after the hurricane in 1987 devastated Ashdown Forest. He could not bear to see the Yew trees being cut up for firewood!

Hugh, who spends his spare time as a voluntary forest ranger, recently ran a successful Woodturning Exhibition at the Ashdown Forest Centre, Forest Row. This included a display of wood technology, woodturning applications and

a typical turner's workshop. Hugh was surprised to find that the pole lathe demonstrations created as much interest as the power lathes did! There was also a good selection of turned items on display for sale. The nine months organization time paid off and the Ashdown Forest Superintendent declared it to be their best exhibition yet.

Although the exhibition's aim was to bring to the public's attention wood and its uses, it also introduced Hugh to other turners. Prior to the five week long exhibition, Hugh knew of only three other turners; he now knows several more, and there is interest in forming a local branch. *You can help! Ring Hugh 0892 653916.*

## News

**Liberon Wax** is expanding its business, which must be good news for turners! They report that with the space they now have and an increased sales force, we shouldn't be surprised to see many more Liberon products on the market; these include many new products which are at present in the pipeline. *Revolutions will be bringing you news of those of interest to turners.* Meanwhile their new address can be found on the back page.

**Insurance:** Those concerned about the security of their workshop contents will have by now examined the sound offer negotiated with Nichols David & Co. Although offering a full insurance service to cover all events, readers will find the one specifically designed for their workshop, turned items and public liability of particular interest. *Contact them at 43 High Street Iwer Bucks, 0753 631100*

**Craft Supplies** now stock wrist watch parts, for those turners who like to have their 'time piece' match their writing sets! Ring 0298 871636 for details or a catalogue.

**Student Rates:** For those who did not know, any person in full time education can join the Association at a discount rate of 50%. Couples can also join at the rate of £20. Tell your friends, applications to the treasurer.

**Training Committee:** We now have a new Chair for the committee. Ken Spencer-Mills was appointed at the last committee meeting. Ken has a wide experience of committee work and was involved in the drafting of the European Convention. He has a scientific background, having been involved in bio-medical research. His interest is in the "definition and acceptance of common minimum standards of training of turners at all levels". He faces a huge task but the committee have every confidence in him.

Members in the Bath & Bristol areas are well provided for by timber merchants!

**Robbins Timber** at Merrywood Road, Bedminster, Bristol, give 10% discount to card carrying members.

**Charltons Timber Centre** Frome Road, Radstock, Bath also offer 10% discount.

## Airstream Review

### I bought my Airstream

**Helmet** nearly two years ago and have been very impressed by its performance. Although at first the helmet felt a little cumbersome to wear it soon became apparent that the "cleaner air" was stopping all those bunged up noses and sneezing bouts. The face visor is terrific for standing in the force gale nine of shavings with your eyes open!! (Great fun)

Just to be serious for a moment the helmet does have some disadvantages:

1. The height of the top of the helmet causes some discomfort when in a head down position, or if like me your workshop has quite a low roof (Although it is not as low as Isabels!! *(surely not !!! Ed.)*)
2. The helmet cover, made of the paper type material, does not clean very easily. Shavings and dust etc. tend to stick and are not easy to remove.
3. The pipe leading from the waist box to the head visor is

made of stiff material, which means that sometimes head movement causes the helmet to slip slightly.

4. The plastic covers for the face visor are quite expensive to replace. I suggest you use clingfilm instead, but don't quote me on that!

5. The end of the long waist



**Proteus P200 Flip-up Visor**

band can sometimes slip out of the belt clip (if you are skinny like me) and can be dangerous near the lathe. So beware!!

Some of the good points are as follows:

1. The air filters are cheap, easy to replace and last a long time.

## Stuart Dean Writes

2. Maintenance is trouble free.
3. Rechargeable batteries are fitted as standard which makes life very easy.
4. The visor will run continuously and effectively for one and a half working days. I suggest the overnight recharge technique, if like me you use it daily.
5. Excellent if you are an hayfever sufferer.

In summary: These helmets, originally designed for use in the farming community, are excellent for hobbyist and professional woodturners alike. Remember that ALL the woodturning operations throw off very fine dust that can be harmful. Working in a clean air environment and protecting your health while enjoying the delights of creative woodturning heavily outweigh any disadvantages I have mentioned above.

Happy Healthy Woodturning

*Stuart Dean is chairman of the West Pennine Branch.*

## Timber!

### Notes from the Wood-cutter

**Ash** is to be found growing in Britain in medium to large size trees and its wood is white with a pale pink tint when first cut. It is ring porous with a growth ring figure especially on flat sawn surfaces. It is about the same weight as beech but if

grown slowly tends to be lighter.

It dries readily, is moderately stable, strong and noted for being tough. It machines easily, takes a good finish and responds well to steam bending.

Notwithstanding that it is perishable and unsuitable for outdoor use unless treated, it is used for ladder rungs, axe,



pick and hammer handles, garden tool handles and some agricultural machinery. It is also used for sports equipment e.g. tennis racquets and cricket stumps; furniture, boat building and commercial vehicle bodies.

The turner will find it an interesting wood which turns clean.

## Readers Letters

## Points of View

*This is your forum, share your views and news with other members!*

**From John Sanders Cumbria**

I imagine there are quite a few branch secretaries who, like me either own their own computer, or have access to one. It would make your task infinitely easier if material from branches reached you on disc, or via a modem. An AWGB bulletin board may be one idea worth looking at. At all events, we could perhaps find out what machines the present branch secretaries use and so explore the possibilities of better and easier communication with you and any one else at the AWGB HQ who works with one of these little miracles.

*John uses an Apple Mac LC2/40 and a Stylewriter Printer, for those of a technical mind. What do members think - is it all double dutch or does microtech communication between turners appeal? Let me know.*

**From Reg Sherwin Bromsgrove**

Congrats on the look of 'Revolutions'. I appreciate that issue 19 is in temporary format, but if it shows the quality of things to come, we are certainly going places.

*High praise indeed! Thanks to all those who wrote in with similar comments and warm wishes.*

**From F.E. Bishop MidGlamorgan**

It would be interesting to know more about Dust extraction, it being an essential part of turning, especially as it can be home made. I would also

appreciate some information on wet turning.

*Anyone out there with plans for home made dust extractors or information on wet turning?*

**From Geoff Hall Stockport**

Your cry for help has been answered! You'll remember that in the last issue of *Revolutions*, you appealed on behalf of Betty Scarpino for someone to write for *American Woodturner* about turning in the U.K. I wrote to Betty offering my services, but her reply dated 25 November reached me only yesterday. Her deadline for the March issue is 2 January, so I've dashed off a short piece in the hope that it fits the bill.

*Geoff writes as a fellow woodturner / wordprocessor! I look forward to seeing his article in print. How about a piece for *Revolutions*?*

## Readers Tips

## Over To You

John Holyoak from Norfolk provides the *Tips* for this issue. Let's hope that John spurs on other members to write in!

If your lathe etc has a dividing plate with a single row of holes, colour code the sequences which you use most often. This can be done under the holes or on the rim. Aluminium yellow or white shows up well for me. Make small dots as certain holes may need more than one colour.

If you have a bench, lathe or other free standing machine which needs to be held in place (not held down), rather than wragbolting it to the floor consider pegging it. The pegs are easy to remove if you want to shift it. In my case I have drilled a 3/8" hole through the foot of the lathe and 2" into the floor. Make sure you don't go down as far as

the damp membrane. Into this I have trapped a 3/8" screwed rod with two locked nuts at the top so that, should the need arise it can be screwed out.

Don't discard wallpaper offcuts and unused rolls, more especially lining paper. It is very good for making full scale drawings. If you have a whole or most of a roll use it as a scroll. Drawings are not lost as you work along the scroll. I stick a sheet of paper on the outside, so it shows when the scroll is rolled up, and make an index as I go along. Having two parallel sides it can also easily be divided up into squares. Needless to say, you use the back of the roll and avoid woodchip paper!