



Revolutions

Issue No 33

June 1995

Newsletter of The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain



Plans are well in hand to make this year's International Seminar the best yet

The last edition of Revolutions gave details of the main presenters and some information on speciality presentations that had yet to be finalised. These will include subjects like Tempering Steel & Tool Making, Colouring Wood, Marketing Theory, Making Lace Bobbins, Lazy Susan's, Salad and Decorative Bowls. These talks and demonstrations will be given by AWGB members Bob French, John Tuck, Albert Lain, Alan Hewitt, Len Grantham, Eric Ditchfield and Chris Lindup.

Subjects being covered by the presenters highlighted in the last edition of Revolutions include Green wood turning, Delicate natural top wet bowls, all types of vases and bowls, Plankwise turning, Long stemmed pommander, Surface texturing, Spindle turning, Surface design with paint, gold leaf, carving etc, Pepper mills, Hollow vessel turning, Boxes - threaded and standard, Ladies dressing table accessories, ideas and inspirations for pots and bowls, Chess pieces, Thin translucent bowls and goblets, Self winding spinning tops plus many more.

A new feature of this years seminar will be the introduction of closed circuit television cameras connected to large television screens. The cameras will be operated by AWGB members who will focus close up to the cutting edge of the tools. You will see what the demonstrator is seeing and what the tool is doing.

As reported in the last edition of Revolutions another new feature of this years Seminar is to hold a banquet on the Saturday night. The banquet will be combined with an auction of work by presenters and others. If there are any members who would like to donate a piece(s) of work please let Ray Key know. Proceeds from the auction will go towards providing places at future Seminars for those who would love to attend but do not have the means to do so.

There are tickets still available for this prestigious event in the calender of the AWGB. If you have been undecided whether or not to book, go for it, you will not find such a wealth of talent, a mecca for ideas, a forum for learning, a venue for meeting great people (as woodturners are of course), a wonderful atmosphere and above all great value for money.

Ten Trade stands will be at this years event, there will be the Gallery of members and presenters work. This is where you will see the 'creme de la creme' of woodturning talent that there is in this country.

Don't be dissapointed ring Len NOW on 0522 595660 or send in the application form from the last edition of Revolutions to reserve your place

5th INTERNATIONAL WOODTURNING SEMINAR

University of Warwick

11th - 13th August 1995

Editorial

I have just got back from 2 weeks holiday in Devon and realised that the next edition of *Revolutions* is due. It only seems like yesterday that I was putting the last edition to bed. This edition is going to be full of information but very few photographs and general interest articles.

I hope to be going to observe the judging of the Plain Turning Competition organised by the Worshipful Company of Turners at the Apothacaries Hall in London to take some photographs. I understand that there are very few entries for this prestigious event. Why is this? do woodturners not like competitions? do they think their work is not good enough? or is it that they just want to turn away in their little sheds at the bottom of the garden and have no aspirations of selling their work, obtaining commissions, or showing it off to the general public. If anyone has any answers please let me know.

Mike Dennis

**Practical WOOD
WORKING**



**13 -15th October 1995
NEC Exhibition Centre,
Birmingham**

A special discount off the normal ticket price has been negotiated for members of the AWGB.

You will not get this discount anywhere else.

Full details and application form in the next edition of *Revolutions*

SEMINAR APPEAL

Do you know of somebody who would dearly love to go to the International Seminar but cannot afford to do so?

This is your chance to nominate an AWGB member who may not have the funds to attend the 1995 AWGB International Seminar, but would dearly love to do so. The AWGB is offering one FREE PLACE this year to a needy person. We would like members to write letters of nomination and give reasons why the nominee should be considered for the place.

It is most likely that all the nominations will go into a draw unless there is one very outstanding candidate.

If the nominee chosen is under sixteen years of age, we shall have to ask that a paying delegate accompanies this person.

The name of the recipient will not be revealed by the AWGB, this is to avoid any form of embarrassment to that individual. If the person concerned wishes to be identified, that will be up to them.

We expect this offer to grow in the years to come, as all funds raised at the Auction held at each Seminar will go into a fund for this sole purpose.

Nominations should be sent to:

Ray Key (Chairman, Seminar Sub-Committee)
53 Weston Rd, Bretforton, Nr Evesham, Worcs. WR11 5HW

To arrive not later than June 30th 1995.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

To all members of the AWGB who cannot attend the seminar you will have the opportunity to view the Instant Gallery and listen to a talk and slide show given by John Jordan on Friday evening 11th August between 8.30 - 11.00pm. The trade stands will also be open during this period. There will be no charge to members to attend this event. All other events are for paid delegates only



The Chairmans Page

My notes for this issue of 'Revolutions' are a little shorter than normal, that is not because the AWGB and its Committee have not been active. It's just that I have a problem with time at the moment, there just is not enough of it. So much so I am putting these notes together while Liz and I take a four day break in Devon, did I say break, two brief cases of AWGB paper work came with us. I have so far put the Seminar programme together, drafted a letter to all presenters and committee, collated the needs of the presenters re, lathes, timber, chucks, etc. Now its down to letters to our suppliers confirming our lathe and timber needs, and a drafted tips to presenters letter, plus a number of other letters and thoughts relative to the AWGB, (its a good job it wasn't beach weather).

Since the last issue of 'Revolutions' your committee has met twice, April 2nd AGM day saw a Branch Delegates meeting held in the morning, followed by a brief pre AGM Committee meeting, then it was the AGM, followed by a post AGM Committee meeting, it was quite a day. On May 14th your committee met again for one of its longest meetings, despite this we were still unable to cover all we needed to in a meeting lasting some 6 hours.

What has happened you ask, well the AGM saw myself formally returned to the Chair, Chris Lindup became Vice-Chairman and all the Officers and Committee who needed to offer themselves for re-election returned unopposed. As Chris was a Branch elected Committee member his elevation to Vice-Chairman ment that the Branches needed to elect another Committee representative. The intention was for this to have happened at the Branch Delegates meeting prior to the AGM, this proved impossible as some groups had not been able to meet and nominate anyone due to the time structure, so the Branches will elect Chris's replacement later in the year. We were a nomination short for one committee place, you may remember in my last Notes that I said I would like to hear from anyone interested, well suprise, suprise two people phoned me offering help, Eric Udall and Peter Einig, Eric said he was a hands on guy not an administrator, Peter is an administrator and thats what we need. Thank you both for your offers.

Peter was duly co-opted on to the Committee at the AGM and Len Grantham heaved a sigh of relief, as Peter has taken on the Membership Secretaries job, something Len has been doing for years alongside his Treasurers job. The most satisfying happening at the AGM (apart from the lack of dissent) was the presentation of the AWGB Lathe on loan, this year to a 11 year old, plus an offer of an evenings tuition with Ken Allen, and a large selection of timber from Craft Supplies.

An update on things that were mentioned in the last issue of 'Revolutions' that have not gone quite as hoped, The Rufford Park Woodworking Fair is off, the response from those contacted by Rufford to take part was poor (we provided 46 names of members). This event wasn't just for woodturners but carvers, furniture makers and a number of other woodworking crafts, our guess is that the shortness of notice and the outdoor style of the event didn't appeal to woodworkers in the British climate.

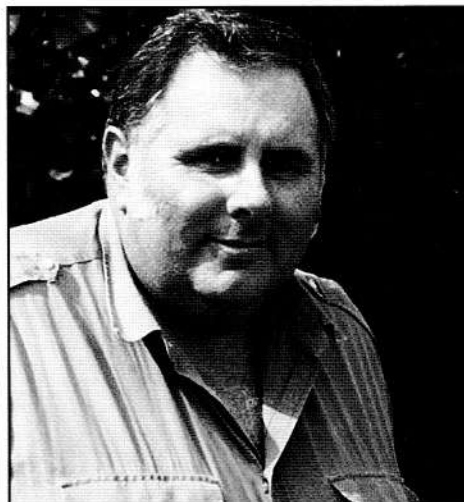
At the time of writing these Notes the response to the Worshipful Company of Turners competition is poor, maybe turners just don't like competition, when you think of the thousands out there turning wood there are not large entries to the National Magazine Woodturning competitions and they have large prizes on offer, not just medals.

As one door closes another opens up, the AWGB has been asked to exhibit at the Practical Woodworking N.E.C. Show in October, there will be a display of work by some of our members, plus the Clinic started last year, also the AWGB will provide the 'Publics Choice Trophy' as in the past. I hope one of our members will be the recipient again as in the past, yes some do enter their work and very fine it often is. I have just spoken

with Alan Mitchell and AWGB members can look forward to a larger discount from their pre booked tickets than any other people can obtain. The AWGB has been asked to send five items of members work for display at a large Woodturning Seminar in Europe being held at the same time as the NEC show, this is proof if proof were needed on International co-operation. We have always had contact with National Woodturning Groups in USA, New Zealand and Ireland, also of course with individuals in many countries of the world, there will be ten Nationalities attending our International Seminar in August. That brings me to the Seminar, this is your last call to book so if you have been sat on the fence its time to get off it and make your booking with Len Grantham. A new initiative this year is that any AWGB member is invited to attend the Friday evening Aug 11th session at NO CHARGE, this will include a Slide presentation by John Jordan at 7:40-8.30pm plus the chance to view the Instant Gallery from 8.30-11.00pm, also there will be the opportunity to make purchases from the trade stands. PLEASE NOTE: We are only able to invite you to attend on the Friday night at all other times the Seminar is for fully paid up delegates only.

Your Committee meets next on July 9th and will be dedicating this meeting to New Initiatives and plans for the future development of the AWGB. We have achieved much since we formed in 1987, but the time has come to go forward once more, or we have stagnation if we don't. I have asked Chris Lindup to Chair this meeting, Chris is fairly new to the Committee and will have a fresher perspective on things than those of us who have been around for some time. That's my lot for this time, when I next write my Chairmans Notes I shall expect to be able to tell you of a number of new ideas for the future.

Ray Key



Profile on

FRANK CLARKE

ASSISTANT
EXHIBITIONS
ORGANIZER

My interest in woodworking in general, like most people, stems from my school days, not that I ever went much. It developed on along the usual path into DIY when the dreaded mortgage appeared. I always found time though to make the odd birthday present or that Saturday afternoon project, which led me into making a small range of garden furniture, and I still turn my hand to this from time to time.

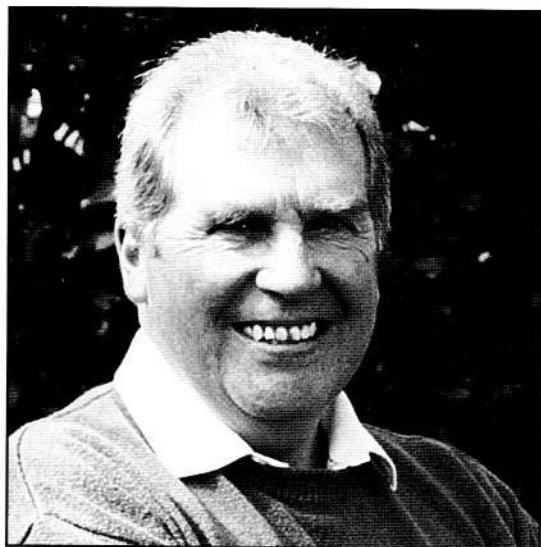
I first tried woodturning at school, although with fairly mixed results, never the less the interest stayed with me. I decided about six years ago that I really should try to rekindle my earlier interest and set out to discover what was involved. Boy! was the bank balance in for a shock! I set about it by (I feel rightly) doing a two day beginners course, which helped me to choose my first lathe- a 48 inch bed Tyne Avon, which I still have, but it is now complemented nicely by a variable speed short bed Graduate.

My woodturning takes many forms, no pun intended, from giftware to one-off items, with a lot of experimentation along the way. This direction has led to some unusual and interesting results, and with so many different

aspects of turning I find there is always something new to try.

I joined the Middlesex woodturners about the time I started turning, as I felt that I needed all the help I could get. It was very forth coming in many ways, and I have made a lot of contacts and some very good friends. Too many in fact, as two years ago I found myself on the Middlesex committee. This just seemed to coincide with my co-option to the AWGB committee to assist in the organization of the association's stands at the three major woodworking shows held each year. I thoroughly enjoy my committee work as it brings me in contact with not just our own members, but many, who like us, are interested in woodturning as a hobby or even an art form, which in lots of ways it is.

Another reason I became so involved is that I feel people should become familiar with as many aspects of their hobby as they can. Somebody has to put in the effort to manage and arrange things. So, join a local branch, if there is one, or band together with other woodturners and start a new club. You will be surprised what you have to offer once you become absorbed, not to mention the friendship and enjoyment you receive in return.



Profile on

GRAHAM LOVETT

ELECTED BRANCH REPRESENTATIVE

I was born and brought up in the Wellington area of Shropshire, attending local primary and secondary schools, leaving at the age of fifteen to enter the world of employment with a firm of motor engineers as a trainee mechanic. This was to be my occupation for eight years, until 1962 when the lure of uniform saw me joining the Police Service, and leaving the green fields of my native county for "exile" in the Black Country area

of the West Midlands. Most of my time with the Police was spent in the Traffic and Communication branches, from where I retired after thirty years in 1992. My current employment is with a local Nursing Home as a part-time "Handyman".

I have always had a feeling for working with wood, through my time at secondary school, into the late fifties and the "rock 'n' roll" era, when I joined a group, couldn't afford a guitar so made my own - solid body type painted red, looked good from a distance, sounded pretty good too, but didn't bring me any fame or fortune!!!! It wasn't until the early 1970's that my taste for woodturning was whetted via a late night T.V. programme, which featured a short item on turning. I can't remember the name of the programme or (worse still) the name of the turner, but I was hooked. My first attempts were by courtesy of Black and Decker on one of their drill powered lathes. It wasn't long before the "right noises" from relatives and friends prompted me to invest in a bigger and better machine. Several years and machines later I now work on a Coronet Elf, which I feel satisfies my "Leisure Turning" activities.

In 1988 I joined the recently formed Association of Woodturners of Great Britain, initially as an individual member, but very soon after joined the West Midlands Branch of the Association, and found many new friends who, like myself, had worked in isolation, in garages, garden sheds and other such locations, until the formation of the national Association brought us out of the "woodwork". I have been secretary of the Branch since late 1989 and have seen the membership steadily grow, boasting a regular membership of around 60 enthusiastic lovers of wood in general and woodturning in particular.

The West Midlands Branch have been involved with the annual International Woodturning Show at the National Exhibition Centre, sponsored by Practical Woodturning Magazine, for the past three years which meant that I was lucky enough to be the one to "dot the i's and cross the t's" in making the necessary arrangements in relation to the A.W.G.B. stand at this particular event. Hard work but very rewarding, particularly in the nice people you tend to meet on these occasions.

In 1994 I was invited to join the national committee of the Association, just as a temporary co-optee, given a job to do and so enjoyed the experience that I put my name forward, and was accepted as a Branch Delegate for the Midlands area.

My work with the Committee has made me realise that a lot of hard work is done on behalf of us A.W.G.B. members, particularly by the Executive Officers, work that is not always appreciated, but nevertheless does go on for the betterment of the Association and its members.

For the remainder of my time as a Committee member I hope to continue to promote the Association at national and local Branch level - giving back a little of what I have gained from being a member of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain.

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

21st August 1995

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday May 14th 1995 Held at Lincoln

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

George Hunter, Eric Ditchfield, Mike Dennis

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and were signed by the Chairman. The next Revolutions is scheduled for July 1st. Ken Allen is to contact all branches and update the list of names and addresses of Secretary's.

3.0 TREASURERS REPORT

The Treasurer took the Committee through the accounts. These show a balance of approx £11,000 and there is not much more to come in this year. With expected expenditure we will just break even this year.

4.0 CHAIRMANS NOTES

The Chairman stated that all his issues appear separately on the agenda.

5.0 MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership stands at 1322 of which 4 are life members. There are 16 overseas, 29 ladies and 21 pairs. We need to be able to separately identify married ladies and juveniles; and the membership forms should be redesigned to pick up such information. Juniors are those up to their 15th birthday. We are currently gaining about 20 new members each month, but there is an overall drift in numbers. We should try to encourage subscriptions on direct debit and this should be publicized in Revolutions. The Treasurer stated that no Branch secretary followed the official procedure for payment of subscriptions as laid out in the Branch Handbook.

6.0 BRANCH CO-ORDINATORS REPORT

The Committee expressed their appreciation to Mrs Allen for the catering at the Branch Delegates meeting. A new Branch the Aylesbury Vale Woodturners is being formed; this will have 100% AWGB membership. Johannes Reiber is to visit South Cheshire for a demonstration, and three other visits are possible. It was agreed that we needed a special meeting to discuss future policy.

7.0 EXHIBITIONS UPDATE

The Rufford event is off. The organisers have not responded on a number of our requirements. The Worshipful Company Competition is not getting the support it should. Gordon Sloane has been given a list of Branch Secretaries to contact. All officers were asked to encourage support. Practical Woodworking have asked us to repeat the clinic at the NEC Exhibition (October 13 - 15th). The Exhibitions Organiser is to talk to PW about negotiating a member discount on tickets. Graham Lovett is to act as coordinator but to call in all the Midlands branches to assist. Len Grantham will organise the clinic. George Hunter has been invited to do the Glasgow show again next year. We have declined the offer of participating in the Good Woodworking show at Alexandra Palace.

8.0 SEMINAR UPDATE

We have 165 bookings. This is not yet break even~ Len Grantham is to prepare a booklet for participants (instead of the wallets previously used)~ There will be 10 trade stands. Ray Key has revisited the site and found that the exhibition and trade stands area is a thoroughfare and that we would therefore need to provide security. Rooms will be available from 12 noon. The Secretary is to invite the woodworking press. They will have to meet own accommodation costs if they wish to stay. We should re-advertise in Revolutions the place for a needy person scheme.

9.0 REVOLUTIONS

The price of advertising was discussed. It was agreed that we should "beef-up" the advertisement selling document and the policy statement and make them customer and benefits focused rather than rules and procedures. We should cut rates by one third. Frank Clarke is to mail shoot suppliers. In a general discussion of contents it was suggested that we seek a panel of reporters, focusing particularly on exhibitions and successes. We should include more photos and How I Did It features. We will appeal at the Seminar for reporters. The Editor will proceed with the next edition immediately and not hold on for copy on the Worshipful Company event. This would mean publication by mid June. The next issue should be 1st September and then aim for 1st November. This would also tie in with AGM notices etc.

10.00 FORMS

Hugh O'Neill suggested some of the data that should be obtained regarding tutors courses and demonstrators. After discussion it was agreed that Graham Lovett, Len Grantham and Hugh O'Neill should draw separate lists of questions and present these at the next meeting.

11.00 WOODTURNING MAGAZINES

The AWGB advert in Woodturning needs revamping to reflect our current activities. Chris Lindup is to contribute for the October issue. We then need someone to write the January material (copy date September).

12.00 TOURING EXHIBITION

Discussions were shelved until we have a proper future planning meeting. Details were advised of an event at St Donnarts Castle in late May 1996 in association with Crafts in Action. There will be 2 guest turners and the cost including accommodation will be £100 per person for the week. The exhibition is expected to draw 6/7000 visitors.

13.00 NEW INITIATIVES

Peter Einig stated that he has a lot of ideas on new initiatives. It was agreed that each committee member should

send him 5 or more ideas on what we should be doing for membership. He will then collate these. A special meeting is to be convened to discuss this.

14.00 INFORMATION ORGANISATION

We each hold information used by the Association. We need to collate this into a single source.

15.00 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Tony Witham is to collate lists of companies prepared to give talks. The Secretary stated that all non affiliated clubs insured for 1994-5 had been contacted and that all bar one had paid. The Secretary is to invoice all non affiliated clubs for the 1995-6 fee.

16.00 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting is to be held at Ray Keys house on Sunday 9th July.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEEETING

PRE & POST AGM, SUNDAY APRIL 2ND 1995

PRE AGM MEETING

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE ACTION

Hugh O'Neill, Tony Witham.

2.0 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Minutes printed in Revolutions should be in precis form.

3.0 ACCOUNTS.

The Treasurer took the Committee through the accounts that were to be presented during the AGM. He was thanked for all his excellent work.

4.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman has received approaches from two volunteers. It was agreed that Peter Einig be co opted. George Greenleaze has contacted Len Grantham. It was agreed that George Hunter will contact him. The next Committee agenda to include the allocation of jobs that need to be done at executive level.

POST AGM MEETING

5.0 SEMINAR UPDATE

150+ bookings have been received. We need and can expect to reach the required 200 delegates. There has been a need to change some plans. Marquee, lighting and security costs have proved excessive. The science building will now be used instead. CCTV equipment is being hired from Radio Rentals. Setting up arrangements: Ray Key, Len Grantham, Eric Ditchfield and Frank Clarke to arrive on Thursday after lunch. Remaining workers arrive as early as possible on Friday morning. There will be an evening meal for presenters, staff and committee on Sunday evening~ Return home Monday morning. Committee members will be allocated single rooms. If any require additional facilities (en suite, wives etc) these will be charged to the member concerned. Advise Len Grantham of requirements. Teams needed to set up workshops and help with CCTV. Don White and Chris Lindup to undertake organisation of trade stands.

6.0 EXHIBITIONS UPDATE

It is proposed to unite Warwick Instant Gallery and Worshipful Company entries into joint exhibition. It is hoped that this will be sponsored by Woodturning magazine. The Worshipful Company Competition is in hand. Details will be given in Revolutions. Rufford Park. The Chairman has a been in contact, but the outdoor nature of the stands is not suitable for woodturning. The organisers have not responded on our expressed concerns.

7.0 REVOLUTIONS

Deadline for copy is May 31st. Graham Lovett, Chris Lindup, Frank Clarke and Ken Allen are to provide personal profiles for the next edition.

8.0 BRANCH START UP PACK.

The start up pack has now been prepared by Ray Key and Ken Allen and is now to go to Mike Dennis for professional lay-out and presentation.

9.0 INFORMATION GATHERING.

Forms to collect details of what commissions people are prepared to accept are to be prepared. This subject will be considered at the next Committee meeting.

10. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.

Peter Einig is to take on the job of Membership Secretary. He will use the computer and software now being used by Len Grantham. They will arrange transfer.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The next Committee meeting is to be held at Len Grantham's on Sunday 14th May.

Branch News

Hi everybody. The AWGB Seminar will shortly be with us with some of the demonstrators/delegates attending this event visiting some of the affiliated branches. Ken Sager of New Zealand will be at the Mid Staffs Branch on August 4th where he will be showing slides of the latest work from New Zealand woodturners, this event will start at 7.30pm. All AWGB Members are welcome. The following day he will be attending an open day together with Reg Sherwin and several other turners organized by the Mid Staffs branch and held at the home of the chairman at the following address 90 Peakes Rd Etching Hill, Rugeley Staffs WS15 2LX Phone 01889 570373

On Monday 7th August the Worcester Branch will be host to Ken Sager. Details can be obtained from Walter Jervis Phone 01527-876632.

The Staffs and South Cheshire Branch will play host to Johannes Reiber from Norway on Saturday 19th August details from the secretary. Barbara Fishburn phone 01538-266468

The Association has been invited to exhibit five pieces of work at the "European Turnery Conference" which is being held at Lons-Le-Saunier (app 60 miles from Geneva) on the 13,14,15, October 1995

It is anticipated that these pieces will be selected from the exhibits at the AWGB Seminar and will represent a cross section of members work. Keep doing a good turn

*Ken Allen.
Branch Co-ordinator*

East Surrey Branch

Few people who have seen George White's coffee set or crown can have forgotten them, so it was no surprise that it was the largest turnout ever at the ESW meeting when he came to

give us a talk.

It wasn't just a talk, but a fascinating presentation with slides of his immaculate workshop, house and each stage of the making of the crowns. There were samples of every part of the crowns and mind blowing statistics. His work is so meticulous that we were all astonished to hear him refer to himself as a beginner when he made that famous coffee set. (The only complaint I've ever heard anyone make about that set is that it is too perfect. Is that possible?) This was a remarkable evening, very much enjoyed by everyone. If your group is lucky enough to have a visit from George, don't miss it. He's a master craftsman and an excellent speaker too.



Middlesex Woodturners Association

A new Secretary has just been appointed for Middlesex. He is David Harrup and lives at 68 Burgess Wood Road South, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire. HP9 1EJ Tel: 01494 678201. He has replaced Mike Dennis who has been in the post for the last five years. Mike had to give up the post due to pressure of work and the time required to concentrate on the job as editor of *Revolutions*.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Hayes Manor School in Wood End Green Road, Hayes at 7.30.

Events for the coming meetings include.

July 13th Stuart Mortimer
August 10th Roger Sweet will be giving a talk on Ornamental Turning.
September 14th Sorby Tools will be revealing the latest in tools etc for the woodturner.

Once again members will be demonstrating and selling their work at the Middlesex Show on Saturday 24th/25th June.



CUMBRIA
WOODTURNERS
ASSOCIATION

Cumbria Woodturners support the AWGB

That was the headline in the recent newsletter of the Cumbria Branch The article went on to say

'A motion to disassociate the CWA from the AWGB fell with only 2 members voting in favour.

The case for the motion rested with the "value for money" argument and suggestions that the AWGB's additional fees were prohibitive to increasing our membership.

Those against the motion quoted the historical roots of the CWA, the recent changes made by the AWGB to accommodate the wishes and suggestions of the affiliated branches, the payments made to cover Insurance and Demonstrator's fees and the many other benefits of belonging to a National body. **We now hope the AWGB can live up to the comments made in their defence at the meeting!**

The AGM report went on to say

'The Chairman indicated a change to the advertised order of the agenda on the grounds that the outcome of the proposed motion to relinquish affiliation to the AWGB could have relevance to the election of Officers and Committee, and to the acceptance of the revised Constitution.

Written notice of the motion "that the CWA disassociate from the AWGB from the 1st Jan. 1996" had been accepted by the Committee and all members of the Association had been informed by letter prior to meeting. Two members spoke in favour of the motion. It was suggested that the

CWA could continue in its own right, self financing those services provided by the AWGB and at a total lower cost than the CWA/AWGB combined charge.

Opposition to the motion was based on the CWA origins, the recent AWGB changes, correspondence with AWGB Officers, the benefits of representation by a national body and the CWA's use of AWGB's insurance and demonstrator grants.

After further questions for detail and clarification, the motion was put to the vote. Two members were in favour and as the necessary majority of no less than two thirds of the subscribing members present was attained, the motion fell.'

Scotswood

Scottish Woodturners (Scotswood). The National Woodworking Show at the SECC Glasgow March 1995.

the 2nd. National Woodworking Show held in the SECC Glasgow in March was upon us before we knew it. Last November we had been kindly offered a stand, for the three days of the Show, by the show organiser Ken Salter, to promote Scotswood and the AWGB.

Seeing the stand set up with work displayed, our demonstrator doing his stuff and the stewards busy handing out information and answering questions it seemed amazing that a Branch whose members are spread throughout the length and breadth of Scotland, who only meet twice a year - and who had met before the invitation was received and weren't due to meet until after the Show had finished - could, under such circumstances, achieve all this.

It was all possible because of the wholehearted support of Scotswood members and the extensive use of the BT network!. Relays of Stewards were "recruited" from the Glasgow area to cover the three days. Our Demonstrator, who came from North West Scotland and whose treadle operated lathe proved to be a great

crowd puller, stayed with relatives in the Glasgow area for the duration of the Show.

The biggest challenge was to organise a display of work for the Stand. A mailshot, requesting exhibits, is expensive. Postal charges to send exhibits to a central collection point could be high not to mention the real possibility of packages being damaged in transit. Because of the peculiar nature of the circumstances for this year's Show it was decided to set the display up on the basis of three one day Craft Fairs. Members known to have experience of Craft Fairs were contacted - teeth were pulled, lights were removed from under bushels, cajoling and bullying were resorted to where necessary - Whew! Using this arrangement meant that one person each day would set up a display, using their own work, be on hand to look after it and remove it at the end of that day. It worked a treat!

Tables, chairs, lathe guard, posters, application forms, handout sheets and all the other bits and pieces required for the stand were moved across Scotland to the SECC in a carefully planned operation, often in the early hours of the morning, using strategically placed car parks. Incidentally the SECC's Safety Officer was delighted to see on display the AWGB's Health and Safety poster.

We have received much useful feedback from those involved with the Stand. The good news is that we've been offered another next year. Our next seminar is scheduled for the 7th October at Inver where we hope to discuss plans for our involvement.

Finally, the Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank again the Scotswood Members for their help and support for the 1995 Show.

Suffolk Branch

Since the formation of the Branch in 1993 the membership has steadily

increased to our present 38.

We now have a regular meeting place which is a Community Centre which is located quite centrally to our area.

We are half way through a very eventful year.

We have named one of our functions TURNABOUT. This involves 12 persons who act as Presenters. Each Presenter has his own special interest i.e. hollow form, pens, jigs etc. Six Presenters are used with about five members attending the presentation which is held in the Presenters workshop. The other six Presenters can join in. TURNABOUT is held every other month. Information, ideas and knowledge is exchanged, plus we get to know each other perhaps better than attending a normal meeting.

In April we had a visit from Chris Stott who gave us a wonderful Demonstration Day. This was followed by two one day Workshops. This was attended by a total of 12 students.

In June we had a visit from John Hunnux who gave us an evening of film slides on Shape and Form. The next day John held a Workshop day attended by 5 students.

In August we are to hold a one day Demonstration. Our Presenter will be Johannes Reiber. We are really excited about this visit and we are privileged to have secured the services of such a well known woodturner.

In September Keith Rowley will be our visitor. He will be holding a Demonstration Day and this will be followed by two or three Workshop Days. We propose to have 6 students per day.

For our December meeting we are looking forward to an evening Demonstration by Tony Witham who is our Branch Area Co-ordinator.

By the end of the year we lucky branch members should be capable of doing a good turn.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Held at
ETCHING VILLAGE HALL, RUGELEY, STAFFS on SUNDAY APRIL 2ND 1995

32 Members were present. Apologies had been received from Hugh O'Neill, Tony Witham and a number of members.

MINUTES OF THE 6TH AGM

In the absence of the Secretary these were read by Chris Lindup. They were agreed as accurate and adopted. The Acting Chairman signed the record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The acting Chairman Ray Key reported on a year of surprise, implementation, consolidation, better communication, and progress. There was also disappointment at the unexpected resignation of the Chairman Tony Waddilove due to business pressures. There was also regret that Chris Cook had been unable to serve due to illness and there was the recent sad news of John Tappendens heart attack. Ray wished Chris and John well.

There have been 5 committee meetings since the last AGM. A major task had been a review of the AWGB's strengths and weaknesses. Communications being identified as the principal weakness. The introduction of four Branch Representatives into the Committee had effected considerable improvements.

We have now produced a 98 page Branch Handbook and held two Branch Representatives meetings. A new Branch start up pack is in preparation. A vote of thanks is due to George Hunter, Chris Lindup, Graham Lovett and Tony Witham for their efforts as Branch Representatives working on the main committee.

The year has seen the Association providing stands at Sandown Park,

NEC Birmingham and Wembley. These have required a tremendous amount of effort from Eric Ditchfield and Frank Clarke. This year we will also have to cope with the International Seminar at the new venue of Warwick University, and another joint competition with the Worshipful Company. The last NEC show saw the introduction on our stand of a very well received clinic led by Len Grantham. We had been able to negotiate discounted entrance tickets for members and would hope to do the same for some future events

The international seminar is being prepared by a subcommittee of Ray Key, Len Grantham, Don White and Tony Waddilove. It is hoped that this years will be the best seminar yet.

The insurance scheme is now fully operational and we have provided cover for all Branches. The individual policy has saved some members hundreds of pound in premiums. This alone underscored the value of a National Woodturning body.

Mike Dennis has done great work on Revolutions but frequently encounters difficulty in getting good copy in good time to meet deadlines~ Mike also designed the new Branch Handbook. Ray expressed our thanks to Mike.

During the year we have purchased a new computer system, some new videos, 1,000 badges, 2,000 letter heads and 10,000 membership application forms.

Two items back on the agenda this year are training and a Touring Exhibition. This will receive more attention in the coming year.

The Chairman in closing expressed disappointment that there had not been nominations for officer and committee posts.

Adoption of the report was proposed by Norman Richardson and seconded by Alan Griffin.

TREASURERS REPORT

The Treasurer, Len Grantham took the meeting through the accounts. These showed a balance at 31 December of £20,905. There had been an operating deficit for the year of £1,798

It was noted that the donation to the Guide Dogs for the Blind appeared under "sale of goods". It should have appeared as a separate item.

Stock in hand is currently 938 AWGB Enamelled lapel badges.

The report was proposed for adoption by Peter Einig and seconded by Reg Baker.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Ken Allen stated that most Branch information had been covered by the Chairman.

There are now 17 Branches affiliated to the AWGB. Branch Representatives were, where possible, elected to represent a regional geographical spread.

Some Branches are regularly working together as groups.

VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING OFFICERS

Ray Key proposed a vote of thanks to retiring officers and particular to Tony Waddilove for his years of service through difficult times.

Thanks were also due to Hugh O'Neill and Len Grantham for their efforts and for agreeing to stand for one more year; and to all members of the executive committee.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following officers were duly proposed, seconded and returned unopposed for the year 1995/6:

Chairman	Ray Key
Vice Chairman	Chris Lindup
Secretary	Hugh O'Neill
Treasurer	Len Grantham
Branch Organiser	Ken Allen

Co-opted Members:

Editor of Revolutions Mike Dennis
Exhibitions Organiser Eric Ditchfield
Asst. Exhibitions Organiser Frank Clarke

Co-opted Member Peter Einig

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1995/6

On recommendations from the Treasurer, it was proposed by Norman

Richardson and seconded by Reg Sherwin that the subscriptions and Branch rebates for 1995/6 remain unchanged.

ELECTION OF ACCOUNTANTS

Proposed and seconded by Alan Griffin and Peter Einig respectively that Roy Chapman be elected accountants for 1995/6

PRESENTATION OF THE LOAN LATHE

Ray Key asked Ken Allen to present the loan lathe to 12 year old Neil Howard from Chapel House, Sandon, Staffs. In addition to the loan of the lathe for the year Neil has been offered an evenings tuition from Ken Allen, a video by Reg Slack, and a bundle of timber from Craft Supplies.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A vote of thanks was given from the members to Len Grantham for his dedicated efforts and hard work on behalf of the AWGB. The instant gallery at the International Seminar at Warwick will be open to all members on the Friday evening (only).

Reg Sherwin announced that he was pleased that the training and qualifications issue has been raised again. Len Grantham said that, from reports he has received, progress is likely to be very slow. The earliest that NVQ's will appear seems to be September 1996.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 3.35PM.



The Yew Trees of Buckland Abbey

By Kay Dennis

On a recent holiday to South Devon, Mike and I went to Buckland Abbey, home of Sir Francis Drake and his family until 1937, the house and grounds are now owned by the National Trust. While we were wandering around the grounds we came up on a row of Yew Trees, known as "The Yew Walk". There were two rows of yews at one time but the '87 storms blew one row over. The remaining row consisted of 12 trees, and the thing that strikes you first is that they are slowly dying, tree by tree. The first 3 trees look as though they are completely dead, the next looks alive - just, the next looks slightly more healthy and so on until further up the walk and up on a bank are two very beautiful, healthy trees.

The fungal disease that is hitting the trees is "Phytophthora Citricola" which attacks the root system and although the National Trust have had several tree 'doctors' to look at the trees, nobody has been able to do anything to save them. There is a plaque asking members of the public to talk to, and hug the trees, hoping that this might give them the 'will to live' - we drew the line at hugging them but we did have a few words with them! It must be heartbreaking to watch these beautiful trees slowly dying.

We asked a couple of the Guides if they knew anything about the trees i.e. when they were planted etc, but sadly nobody could give us any further information about them.

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- 2) **THE FINIAL BOX** - The viewer is lead skilfully through the steps to successfully complete this challenging, graceful traditionally designed box. 40 min.
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