

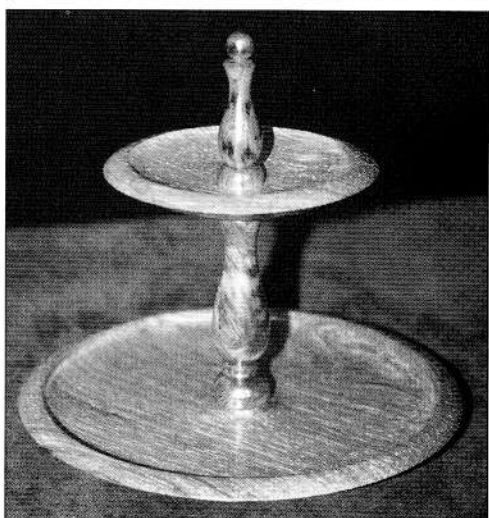
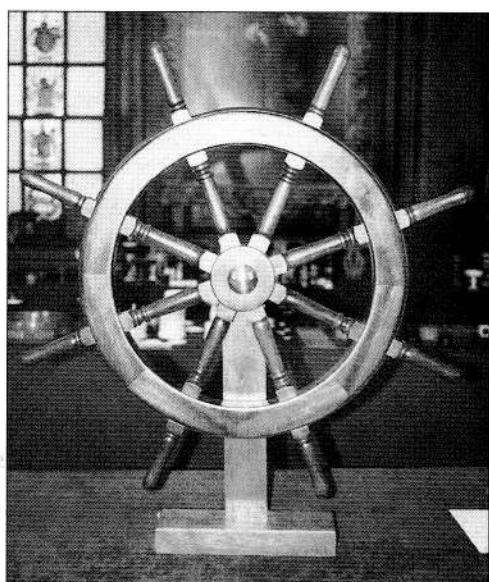
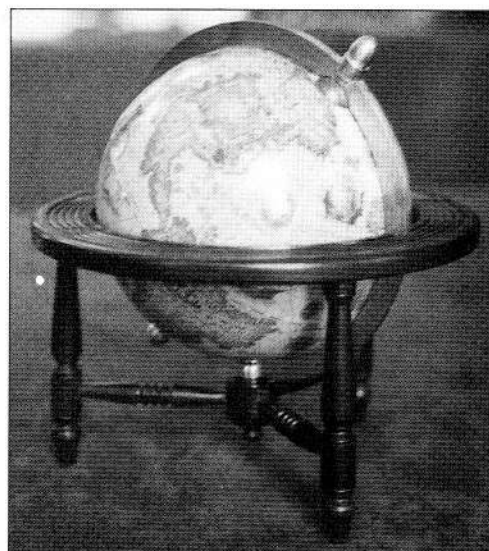
# *Revolutions*

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Issue No 46

£1.95 Free to members

August 1998



# Chairmans Page



The weather this summer has so far been so poor that I have hardly noticed that summer is here. No doubt, like me, many woodturners will have spent more time at the lathe for glorious sunny and warm days have not been tempting us away. No sooner is summer over and we are into the exhibition and show season. There will be several between now and Christmas.

The Axminster Show which last year was held very successfully for the first time on the Bath & West Showground, continues at that venue. Those on Axminster's mailing list will have been notified. It is worth emphasising that the competition that was held last year for furniture has been extended to woodturning so now is the time to start thinking and planning something special for a November deadline.

I look forward to meeting AWGB members at our stand at shows and exhibitions I am able to attend. There are a much valued opportunity to talk directly with AWGB members although there is usually only one topic of conversation!

## 'Wonders in Wood'

The next really big event for the AWGB is the publication of "Wonders in Wood". This exciting and ambitious new venture, to publish a woodturning book, is a first for us and is well on the way to completion. We expect it to be available in the Autumn.

The book includes 101 pieces selected by Bert Marsh from the 'Instant Gallery' exhibition that was the centre piece at the AWGB International seminar held at the University of Warwick in August 1997. The exhibition was the biggest we have yet staged and the quality of the work on display was outstanding.

It was decided that it would be appropriate to celebrate and mark the 10th Anniversary of the AWGB in some way and the publication of "Wonders in Wood" serves this purpose. It also provides a fine record of the woodturners' art. The book shows a very wide range of work that can be undertaken on a lathe.

There were over 450 exhibits in the 'Instant

Gallery' for Bert Marsh to choose from. We thank Bert for being so willing to take on such a challenging task and for selections that are very interesting, informative and inspirational. Many pieces featured compel you to 'have a go' and others leave you 'wondering' and baffled as to how they were made.

The superb photography was generously undertaken by Tony Boase, a professional photographer and an AWGB member with a passion for woodturning. We are grateful to Tony for his work on our behalf. Mike Dennis, Vice-Chairman of AWGB and Editor of *Revolutions*, has put the book together for the printers. He must have spent many, many hours to this end so many thanks are due to him. There are many other people to thank who have contributed to this venture and their work is acknowledged in the book itself.

'Wonders in Wood' will be a much sought after book. It is a fitting tribute to the 10th anniversary of the AWGB and to the work of woodturners. I look forward to receiving a copy.

## The good name of the AWGB

I write with some concern over an article in a recent issue of *Woodturner* magazine. A lady complained to the editor about her treatment on a woodturning course. She alleged that she had been treated in a very sexist way by her tutor whose of language contained numerous references and associations of a sexual nature that she found highly offensive.

I mention this because the lady in question alleged that her tutor was a member of the AWGB as well as other craft organisations. The AWGB has been implicated by association.

Without knowing the precise details of this complaint it is nonetheless appropriate to state that the AWGB neither supports nor condones behaviour of the nature alleged. It is the intention of this organisation to be proper in its treatment of all. We have few enough females involved in woodturning and I am sure we would all like to encourage greater participation.

Chris Lindup

# The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

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**Articles, letters, tips, adverts etc featured in this Newsletter do not necessarily carry the endorsement of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain.**

### DATA PROTECTION ACT

If you object to your name, address and telephone number being held on a computer belonging to the AWGB, then please write to the Secretary. (Address Opposite)

The following woodturning videos are available for hire to members.

Turning Wood	Richard Raffan	2 Hrs
Turning Projects	Richard Raffan	1 1/2 Hrs
Bowl Turning	Del Stubbs	1 1/2 Hrs
Hollow Turning	John Jordan	2 Hrs
Bowl Turning	John Jordan	2 Hrs
Cutting & Sharpening	Chris Stott	1/2 Hrs
Turning Bowls	Chris Stott	1 1/4 Hrs
Turning Boxes	Chris Stott	1 1/4 Hrs
Decorative Effects & Colouring	Chris Stott	1 1/4 Hrs
The Basic Box	Ray Key	3/4 Hrs
The Capsule Box	Ray Key	3/4 Hrs
The Finial Box	Ray Key	3/4 Hrs
A Course on Spindle Turning	Ray Jones	3 Hrs
Elliptical Turning	David Springett	1 Hr
Woodturning Wizardry	David Springett	2 Hrs
Colouring Wood	Jan Sanders	1 1/4 Hrs
The Woodturning Workshop	Slack & Sutton	1 1/2 Hrs
Techniques from AAW Symposium 1995		2 Hrs
Instant Gallery from AW Symposium 1995		1 Hr

Slide Packs of the 1989, 1991, 1993 Loughborough International Seminars. - Slide Pack of the Hay-on-Wye exhibition 1996, Warwick International Seminar 1995, 1997 To hire any one video or one slide pack, Please send 2 cheques one for £5 for one week's hire and one for £30 as a deposit which will be returned on the safe return of the video or slide pack.

Please make both cheques payable to AWGB.

Application for hire should be made to: George Hunter (Address Opposite)

### AWGB LAPEL BADGES

(Brass & Enamel)

COST £2.50 inclusive of post and packing

Send Cheque etc, to Frank Clarke (Address Opposite)

MAKE ALL PAYMENTS TO AWGB

### CLOTH BADGES

For sowing on Smocks etc

£4.00 inc Post & Packing

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

**15 October 1998**

# Editorial

How time has flown by since I was last writing my editorial. A lot has happened in the last three months. I have spent many hours getting the 'Wonders in Wood' book prepared ready for publication. This has involved me in preparing design copies for the committee to consider and approve. We finally had all the decisions made and the material went off to Singapore where the book was being printed. The proofs arrived about ten days later and the book sub-committee met for a grueling 9 hours at my house. We went through the whole book from cover to cover, to ensure that, as far as was humanly possible, everything was correct and that you get a top quality book when you purchase your copy. It has been a very rewarding experience and I have learnt an awful lot about the publishing business – obtaining and registering ISBN numbers, dealing with barcodes, and sending and receiving packages from abroad, are all new experiences. One of the things I discovered was that, via the Internet, I could find out exactly where my parcels were in the world and the time that they arrived at various destinations. I have to thank Neil Bell for his advice and assistance with some of these issues.

Neil has now been co-opted to the Executive Committee to look after publicity for the Association.

My woodturning has also kept me busy, for which I am not complaining, with commissions, demonstrations and experimentation.

I also have an allotment which has suffered this year, not only due to other pressures but the appalling weather of late.

Chris Lindup had to spend some time in hospital recently and for the last two months I have been acting as Chairman of the Association. Chris is back home

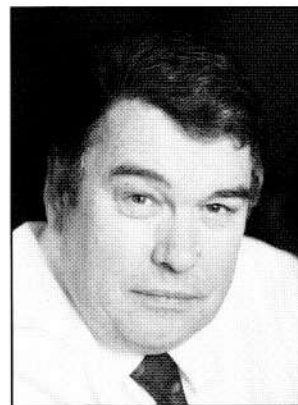
now and well on the way to a full recovery. We all wish him well.

I had the honour to be asked to judge the Plain Turning Competition at the Apothacaries Hall, home of the Worshipful Company of Turners, recently. A fuller story of this event can be found on page 7.

Frank Clarke and I spent a day in Devon recently. We visited John Bradford's timber yard in Ottery St Mary. It is the first time I have been to this 'alladins cave' of wood. What a place, timber everywhere and all those timbers that us woodturners cry out for. We could have spent a fortune but fortunately we were limited to what we could get into Franks car. Our next stop was Axminster Power Tools. We wanted to look at their new Woodturning Centre. The new shop, which is further down the road from the old shop, is opposite the pub. Everything for the woodturner, including lathes, tools, wood, accessories and sundries were all well displayed. They are also starting to supply timber and the quality of their turning blanks was good. They were still fitting out the shop when we visited. If all of their plans come to fruition this will be a haven for all woodturners.

The internet is now up and running, although some of the information is not quite up-to-date. This is mainly my fault for not feeding the information through to Peter Hemsley, our webmaster.

You will have found enclosed with this edition of *Revolutions* a questionnaire. Please make the effort and fill it in and return it to Frank Clarke. You may even win a free place at next years seminar. Apart from that it is important for the Association to be able to plan its future based on the members wishes. This can only be



achieved if we know what you want.

The more observant of you will have noticed that the newsletter came in a polythene bag with a fly sheet printed with your name and address on it. If the address is incorrect please let Derek Phillips, Membership Secretary know.

We are now using a specialist mailing company to post the newsletters. This will make a significant saving on the postage bill.

*Mike Dennis*

## Ballot Results

The result of the postal ballot to all branches to elect two branch representatives to the AWGB Executive committee are given below.

Seventeen Branches voted as follows:

Richard Barnes	7 votes
Peter Garrison	5 votes
Reg Hawthorne	8 votes
Tony Witham	14 votes

Reg and Tony have been elected to serve on the committee

Reg's address is

Reg Hawthorne,  
Kiln Gardens,  
Chapel Street  
Stow-on-the-Wold,  
Gloucestershire.  
GL4 1DA

# ***AWGB 7TH INTERNATIONAL WOODTURNING SEMINAR***

*August 13th, 14th & 15th 1999*

*University of Warwick  
Nr. Coventry, Warwickshire*



## **Main Presenters**

Ciarian Forbes – Ireland  
Michael Hosaluk – Canada  
Betty Scarpino – USA  
Mark Sfirri – USA  
Stuart Batty – UK  
Phil Irons – UK  
Phil Reardon – UK  
Dave Regester – UK  
Chris Stott – UK

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**Gary Rance - UK**

These are the main presenters, other will be added.

Subjects like safe chain saw use, photographing your work, panel discussions and many other things will make this a very full and varied programme.

More information will be available in the next issue of *Revolutions*

***Make a date in your diary now***



# The Worshipful Company of Turners

## OPEN & PLAIN TURNING COMPETITIONS

by Mike Dennis

Frank Clarke and yours truly had made arrangements to visit the Apothacaries Hall to view the competitions that were being held by the Worshipful Company of Turners on June 25th and we were also representing the AWGB.

A week before the event I received a telephone call from the Secretary of the Worshipful Company asking if I would judge the plain turning and open turning competitions. This role would normally fall to the Chairman of the AWGB but, because Chris was in hospital I was asked as Vice Chairman to represent him. I accepted the honour and suggested that, as Frank would also be there, we shared the honour of judging.



Mike (right) and Frank (left) at the Apothacaries Hall

We arranged to meet outside Blackfriars tube station and made our way to the Apothacaries hall, calling in to buy some films so that I could photograph the pieces on display.

When we arrived at the hall members of the Worshipful Company were starting to set out the tables and put out the competition entries. Other competitions apart from the plain and open turning competitions were taking place. The ornamental turners had their own competitions as well as a competition for members of the

Worshipful Company.

At 12 noon the public and exhibitors were asked to leave the hall in order that judging could commence. Frank and I were amazed to see that out a membership of nearly 2000 members of the AWGB plus the membership of the Northern Federation of Woodturning Groups and the Association of South Western Turners there were **ONLY 7** entries for the plain turning competition and only three for the open competition. There were no entries for the junior competition. Although it made our job easier it was disappointing that so few members had bothered to enter these prestigious competitions.

That said we got down to the task in hand and duly picked the gold, silver and bronze medal winners. We also decided that a fourth piece deserved a certificate of merit.

The winners pieces are shown on the front cover and were made by

### Gold Medal

Tony Witham for his clock

### Silver Medal

Norman Bastianni for his ships wheel

### Bronze Medal

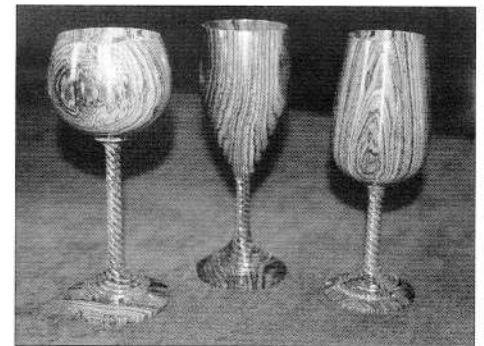
Geoffrey Brandon for his globe of the world

### Certificate of Merit

Harry Hobbs for his platter.

With only three pieces in the open turning competition, which was for a set of three wine goblets, it was just a matter of deciding first, second and third after first satisfying ourselves that they all deserved a prize.

The results are as follows



1st Prize Tony Witham



2nd Prize Tom Pockley

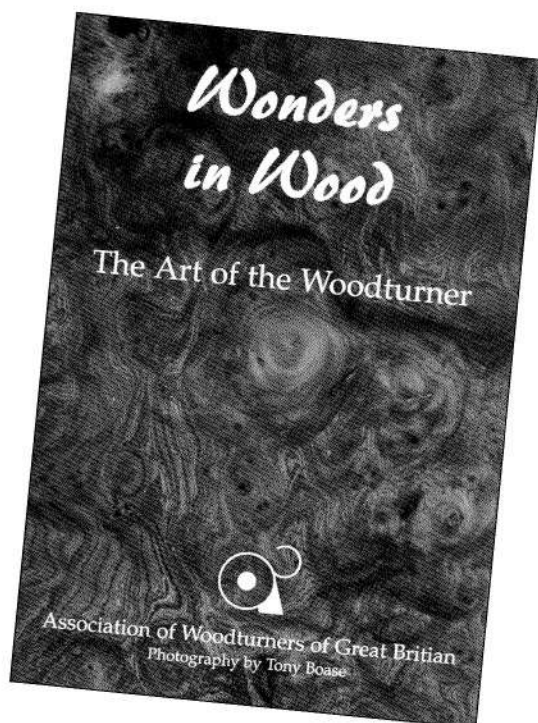


3rd Prize Paul Coker

Tony Witham also won a subscription to Wood Turning magazine and Woodworking magazine. Tom Pockley also won a set of Sorby Tools.

# *Wonders in Wood*

## The Art of the Woodturner



It seems like yesterday that the 1997 International Seminar closed and Bert Marsh came up with the list of pieces from the exhibition to be included in a possible publication to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the AWGB. Since then we have courted a number of publishers but to no avail. Determined to make it happen it was decided to publish the book ourselves as you are aware.

Originally, and as reported in the last edition of *Revolutions*, the book was to have 64 pages and it was anticipated that the cost would be £7.50 to members and £9.50 to non-members. It was subsequently decided that 2 images per page would not do justice to the pieces of work. Quotes were obtained to have 1 image per page and the committee decided that this was the preferred option. There book would now be 120 pages and the price would be £9.95 to members and £11.95 to non-members.

**'Wonders in Wood - The Art of the Woodturner'**  
**will be launched on 9th October 1998**

**at the**

**International Woodworking and Turning Exhibition**  
**at the NEC**

**and can be purchased by members in a number of ways;**

- At the NEC for £9.95 upon production of your valid membership card.
- Directly from the Hon. Sec. Peter Einig, for £9.95 plus P&P quoting your membership number.
- Via your Branch if they wish to order in bulk at a reduced P&P rate.
- At the APTC Show in November at Shepton Mallet for £9.95 upon production of your valid membership card.(subject to availability)
- At the Wembley show in February 1999 for £9.95 upon production of your valid membership card.(subject to availability)
- Members saving on cover price - £2.00.

**Post and Packaging;**

- UK £2.00
- EU £3.00
- Rest of the world £5.00

Please order early to assist with administration and reserve your copy.

Cheques with order made payable to the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain for the full amount, including P&P, quoting your membership number, name and address please. Books will be despatched week beginning 5th. October 1998.

Members who had their work selected will receive a free copy of the book

# OVER THE LIMIT

by John Cranna

I was looking round one of my wood suppliers yard when the owner came up and said "Would you turn me a bowl?" "Of course I will" I replied, and that is where the trouble started. As we walked across the yard to where the wood he wanted turning lay he remarked that the blank was quite large, and he was right. Lying amongst the grass was the largest slice of burr sycamore that I had ever seen. I looked at it for a few moments and said "I can only swing 20 inches without a free standing tool rest and I don't have one" That was no problem and within five minutes his chain saw had reduced the burr to 19 inches in diameter. It was very green and it took two of us to lift it into the back of my vehicle. When I got home I manhandled it into a sack barrow and propped it upon two pieces of wood outside the workshop, covered it with some wet potato sacks and forgot about it, or at least tried to. When the hot weather arrived in May I was horrified to see that the wood had started to split so armed with a bottle of super glue I proceeded to fill and seal the cracks and then attempted to move the wood into the workshop. To my surprise this proved quite easy, I have since learnt that sycamore dries out very quickly, and I soon had it on the bench preparing one surface to accept a 6 inch face plate. Once firmly fixed in place with eight 2 inch no. 12 screws I managed to secure it on the outboard side of my Jubilee, engaged the lowest ratio of 470 rpm pressed the start button and then immediately the stop button. The lathe is mounted in 9 inches of concrete but the blank was so out of balance, if I had left the lathe running then I am sure that my workshop would now be located in the neighboring parish. The only solution would be some form of

variable speed control. Without going into details I was lucky enough to be offered the use of a prototype single phase speed controller and with great doubts about its suitability for the job I accepted. It took about five minutes to fit and with the lathe in the second speed ratio I switched on. Nothing happened so I turned up the dial and slowly the large piece of tree started to rotate and the lathe stayed still. So far so good. Using a 3/8 bowl gouge I approached the work and soon had it almost at a standstill. As I expected, no torque. I changed the lathe down to the lowest speed ratio adjusted the speed dial on the control panel and started again. Success! Yes, I could slow down the work but I estimated that the lathe was turning at no more than 150 rpm. and with fine cuts I soon had the outside surface turned to a manageable shape that allowed me to increase the speed and take deeper cuts. It took me about 50 minutes to roughly shape the out side of the bowl and cut a recess ready to remount the work and hollow out the interior. This took much less time and at a higher speed I was able to rough turn the work to about 1 inch thick and found it difficult to slow down or stop the bowl by digging in with the gouge. I removed the work from the lathe and set it to one side to dry out and mounted a smaller spalted beech bowl blank. This proved to be very different and the whole job was completed in a very short time with almost no apparent loss of torque. On reflection I realized that the further from the center of the work one goes the greater the braking power of the tool. I then centered a piece of two by two, roughed it down and turned a series of hollows and beads with satisfactory results. I found the control unit worked well, gave me the speed that I

needed for a particular job and allowed me the flexibility to work in a more controlled way without the problem of continuous belt changing. There must be drawbacks and there were. The first and most annoying fault is when the lathe is switched on you immediately notice the increased motor whine at a level that I found unacceptable. I am assured that this is inevitable but on the production model the sound will be muted. With the present electrical settings, although reducing the speed to 0 rpm the speed control unit will only increase the lathe speed to the maximum speed of the pulley ratio currently engaged. This will also be altered on the production model to allow a top speed of almost twice the chosen ratio. This would ensure that for all normal uses my lathe would run at speeds from below 400 rpm up to 1400 rpm. without changing the belt. I should find this a large enough range for most of my work. In the past I have always considered a variable speed control unit on a lathe a luxury but I have become used to having the facility and will miss it when the prototype test unit has to go back. As far as I am concerned it worked for me, fulfilled a need and once it is in production if reasonably priced will without doubt be high on my shopping list. It offers variable speed without the problems and expense of changing to a three phase motor.

The sycamore bowl? I finished turning it a week later, still with the use of the speed control unit. At 17 1/2 inches in diameter it is probably the largest piece of work that I shall ever turn and certainly one of the most attractive. For further details of the speed control unit and availability contact Tom Gilks on 01775 820004 or 0589 651332.

# Woodturning gifts for Foreign Ministers

Mark Hancock was commissioned by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to produce turned gifts for the Foreign Ministers attending the Cardiff European Council held on the 15th June 1998 which was hosted by the UK as it took over the Presidency of the European Union.

A number of organisations in Wales were approached to submit the names of makers able to produce suitable work for the occasion. Mark was one of a number from the Makers Guild in Wales who submitted proposals for the gifts with the final selection being taken by the Prime Minister Tony Blair and the Foreign Minister Robin Cook. The other successful candidate was Peter Wills, a ceramicist from Bridgend and also a member of the Makers Guild in Wales.

The commission will involve turning 17 Sycamore hollow vessels similar to those shown here and featured in the Association of Woodturners of Great

Britain '101 Wonders in Wood' Exhibition selected at the Warwick International Seminar in August 1997. The idea for these hollow forms developed from a series of work Mark produced for an exhibition celebrating the opening of a new gallery in Cardiff Bay run by the Makers Guild in Wales.

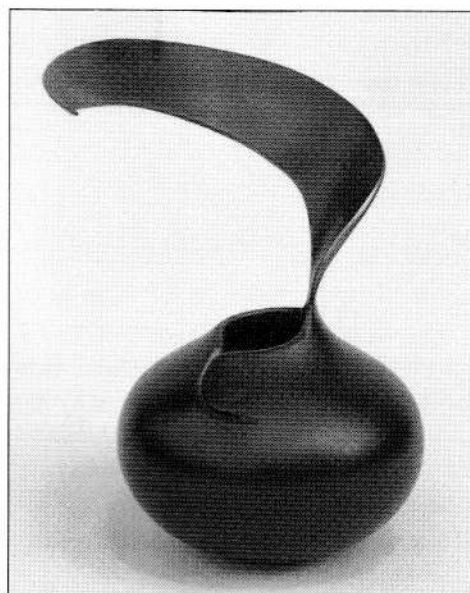


*'Single Swirl'*  
Sycamore drop series  
(Ebonised and Gilded)  
195mm high x 155mm dia

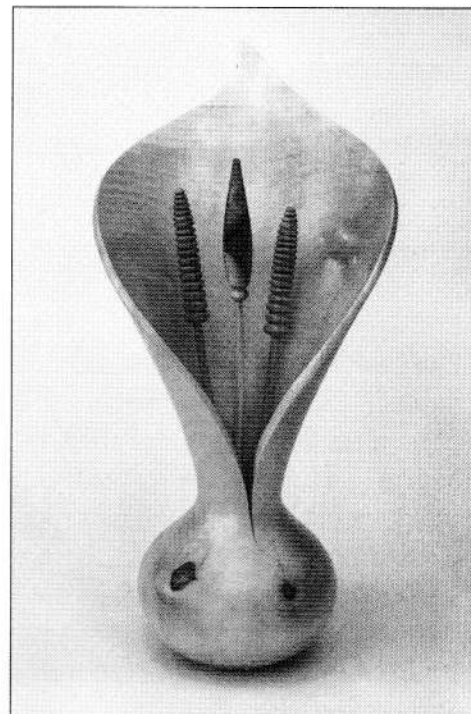
Examples of Mark's work can be seen at the exhibition 'A Celebration Of Craftsmanship' in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire August 15th to 23th where Mark will be exhibiting following his success there last year.

Mark began turning in 1989 shortly after which he took second prize for turning in the National Eisteddfod of Wales while still training.

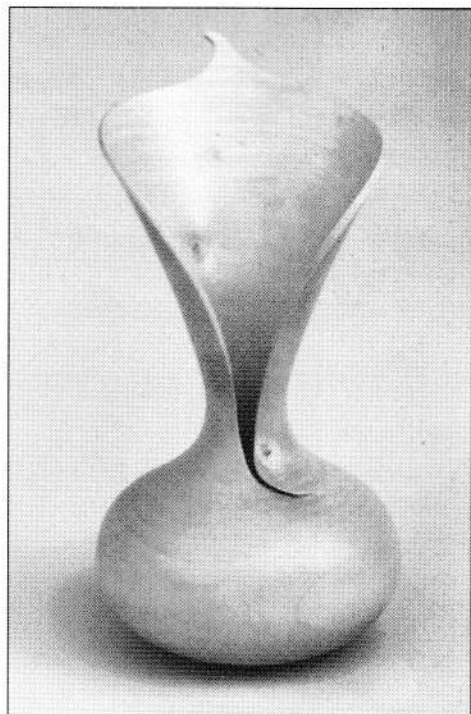
Mark is based near Abergavenny in South Wales and is on the Register of the Worshipful Company of Turners.



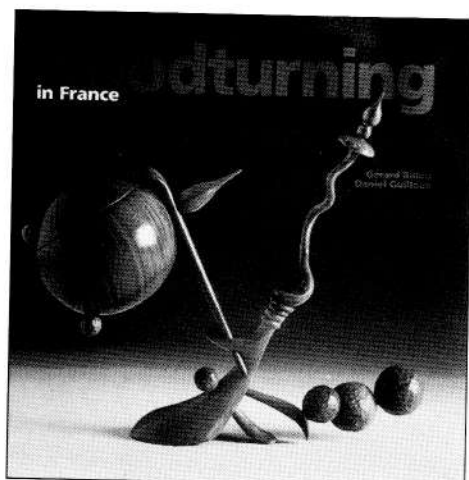
*'Swirl'*  
Sycamore drop series  
(Ebonised and Gilded)  
240mm high x 225mm dia



*'Lily'*  
220mm high x 130mm dia  
4th prize in Worshipful Company of  
Turners competition 1997



*'Leaf'*  
Sycamore drop series  
245mm high x 160mm dia  
Selected for inclusion in the  
'Wonders in Wood' exhibition and book



The result is a new and staunchly modern concept of the turned objet d'art whose authors are beginning to introduce to their peers through gallery exhibitions. Gerard BIDOU and Daniel GUILLOUX are taking part in this dynamic spirit. Their book presents some of the most renowned French specialists, evoking the many facets of expressive turning in France today.

These artists become familiar to the reader from one chapter to the next. In the context of their work, they each reveal in turn the source of their passion, their relationship with wood and the way they interpret and highlight the many aspects of this wanderous plant. On a technical level they each demonstrate with photos and diagrams one of their favourite methods used when making a piece. Full-colour illustrations of representative styles and pieces conclude each account. By showing its many faces, this works out to establish a link between the world of woodturning and the general public.

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Admission: £5 Adults, Concessions £4, Under 16 FREE

Tickets in advance: £4 Adults, Concessions £3

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OUNDE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE 01832 274333

For further information please contact G LYN MOU LD 01832 280001

# *The Thoughts of 'Chuck Turner'*

## **Now winter is coming on**

My workshop is quite dry, and free from damp, but this will not stop equipment from going rusty without some thought and preparations being made. So each year about this time I set to work cleaning and oiling my lathes, bandsaw, planer thicknesser, and fretsaws etc. Keep oil off your lathe drive belts as it will dissolve the rubber and at least make the surface of the belt sticky.

Work tables and all metal parts will condense moisture out of the atmosphere, so apply Liberon 'Lubo', a thin lubricating wax, from time to time during the winter, or WD40, the excess of which should not be wiped off, but left to dry. However my principle method of combating water vapour condensing out onto the cold metal surfaces, is to have cloth covers for all the machines. These are easily made up, for example a long and thick curtain, no longer required, folded down the middle lengthways and each end sown up fits over the lathe. The planer thicknesser is covered by an old dressing gown, cut straight across the body under the armpits and the body part folded in half lengthways and ends sown up. Mini lathe is covered by an old bath towel prepared in the same way. Just put your covers on when you pack up for the day and you will have no trouble with condensation. There are other items in your workshop that also require some attention. End seal goes solid if frosted. Tung oil also spoils if frosted, as does PVA adhesive, so all of these end up indoors - in the kitchen cupboards if you can get away with it, but certainly in a frost proof place. Lubo and WD40 are of course

very good proofing for saws, chisels and most of the metal parts of tools, with Lubo the wax spreads out to a very fine coating, which doesn't really need wiping off before use, and WD40 dries into a fine protective film. So read carefully the instructions on your finishes, don't let frost destroy them, and while you're about it mend the hole in the roof!

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## **Light Pulls**

Recently idly contemplating how I could improve the marketing of some of my woodturning masterpieces, my thoughts turned to that evening, in 1997 when our Branch had an evening visit from Bob and Ann Phillips the New Zealand authors of the book 'Make money from woodturning'.

The prices they were getting for their turned items turned all of us a delicate shade of green I'm sure. If I could get one twentieth of those prices maybe I could get someone else to do the turning!

But seriously, there was one comment by Bob which made many of us feel somewhat put down.

He said, "Why does everyone in this country seem to want to make Light Pulls? After all most houses only need about two, one in the bathroom and one in the toilet "

What Bob didn't realise was the difference in populations between New Zealand and Great Britain, and of course the high price of prepared

wood bought through our British suppliers.

Many of us try our best to season our own wood, and if my effort are anything to go by, we end up with a great deal of surplus cracked and useless material.

Great if you have a wood burning stove, but not much help to those with gas central heating.

Light pulls are just right for the small, beautifully seasoned, remnants left after all our efforts.

At the moment I have 110 drilled and prepared blanks in a sack in my workshop.

But, be of good cheer, I think I have the answer.

The New Zealand population is very much lower than that of Great Britain - here we have a reputed population of 57 million. Now, assuming an average of 5.7 persons per household, (which is quite a generous average). This means there are about 10 million homes each requiring at least 2 light pulls! SO! if my mental arithmetic is up to it there is a need of 20 million light pulls in this country alone. What a market! Don't forget up to now we have not thought about the Common Market.

So do not despair - don't throw away a thing - keep hoarding those left overs, the storage is light, the market is immense, but do get your price right or you will end up with a sack of beautifully finished light pulls in your workshop

# THE INTERNATIONAL WOODWORKING & TURNING EXHIBITION

9th to 11th October at the NEC, Exhibition Hall 10

## Take your turn

Demonstrate your skills and contribute to a major display of woodturning at the NEC

This year it is hoped that entries to the competition for woodturners will make a showcase display of the different types of turning work being carried out by enthusiasts across the country. The display will be one of the central features at the International Woodworking and Turning Exhibition.

There are two categories of entry: Category A is for work exclusively or predominantly turned as 'faceplate' work (i.e. single fixing and remounting from the headstock) and Category B which is exclusively or predominantly between centres or spindle turned work.

Three sponsors are generously donating prizes and these are Craft Supplies, Draper Tools and Hegner UK, all of whom are putting up prizes to the value of £1000 each, making a total of £3000 worth of tools and equipment to be won. Winners will have the chance to choose their prizes from the catalogues of the sponsor of their particular group of entry.

This year we have also sought to spread the prizes to a greater degree to encourage even more people to enter, and make the resultant display of work really worth seeing by all turning enthusiasts and visitors to the show.

Woodturning clubs may like to encourage members to enter and can help by organising group submissions. Entries can even be pieces submitted in club competitions so long as they have not previously been submitted at national events.

Visitors to the show will also have the opportunity to choose the item which they think is 'best of show' by casting a vote, and the turner of the item receiving the most votes will be awarded a special trophy which is donated by the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain.

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

Competitors may enter as many pieces as they wish in either category but may only win one prize in each category. There is no specific theme and the pieces need not have been made specifically for this competition. However, they must not have been exhibited before at a national woodworking event.

### CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

Entries may be in the form of functional or artistic turnings or as turned components of a larger project. The use of a woodturning lathe must be predominant, and entries should demonstrate the use of hand skills in woodturning. Items should also principally be made of wood and may be finished in any way you choose. All accepted entries will be examined by the judging panel (who will have no knowledge of entrants' names during the judging process) and assessment will be on the basis of the following qualities.

- 1 Craftsmanship: skill in using tools and the quality of finish.
- 2 Design: whether the item performs its function well and is visually pleasing.
- 3 Originality: is the design of the item original or copied from an existing design.
- 4 Good use of materials and general appeal.

### HOW TO ENTER

Having first filled in and returned the registration form, all you have to do is to submit any item that you have made on the lathe and send it, together with a properly completed entry form to: 'Take Your Turn' Woodturning Competition, Woodworking Titles, Nexus House, Azalea Drive, Swanley, Kent BR8 8HY Your entry must reach us no later than 25th September 1998. All entries will be returned after they have been judged and displayed at The International Woodworking & Turning Exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre from 9th to 11th October 1998. Alternatively, entries may be collected from the Exhibition Hall on the last day of the Show (11th Oct) after 5pm.

To avoid damage in transit, please ensure that your entry is well packed, especially if it

incorporates any delicate details or is at all fragile. It is a good idea to send your entry recorded or registered delivery and/or to insure your work against damage or loss in transit through the Post Office, Parcelforce or with the relevant carrier. Please write your name and address clearly on the outside of your packaging.

### OTHER ARRANGEMENTS

Entrants who wish to make alternative arrangements for delivery of their work are invited to telephone the editorial offices (Tel: 01322 660070) to discuss the problem.

### REGISTRATION

Before submitting your finished piece of turned work we ask you to complete the registration form and send this in separately to the magazine. This allows us to label the entries and produce graphics in sufficient time to describe the items before putting them on display in the Exhibition Hall. All entrants will be given free entry to the Show for the Sunday, to allow them to attend the prizegiving and to collect their entries if they wish.

### RULES

The competition is open to all readers resident in Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands, Eire, Isle of Man, other than employees (and members of their families) of Nexus Special Interests.

Entries must be in the form of an object or set of objects, practical functional or decorative, and should principally be made on a woodturning lathe. They should be constructed mainly of wood and may be finished in paint; varnish, stain etc. Other materials may be used for decoration and non-wood accessories incorporated.

Items for this competition should not have been entered in other national competitions.

Any entry arriving after the closing date will not be considered and no responsibility can be accepted for entries lost, delayed or damaged in the post.

We reserve the right to change the category

of entry of items if it is felt by the judges to be more appropriate to the nature of the work involved.

Entries received incomplete, not accompanied by an entry coupon, or not complying with the instructions and rules will be disqualified. All entries will be displayed at The International Woodworking and Turning Exhibition at the NEC from 9th to 11th October 1998. Items will be returned after this date.

The judges' decision will be final. In the event of there being insufficient entries of a high enough standard, we reserve the right not to award all prizes.

Entry implies acceptance of the rules as being final and legally binding. All items entered for the competition must be the entrant's own work. Winners will be notified before the end of the Show and the results will be published later in the magazine.

### FIRST PRIZE

Best overall turned item in both sections  
Hegner HDB lathe worth £1000

### Category A

**Sponsored by Craft Supplies**

Predominantly faceplate turning

2nd prize items to the value of £350

3rd prize items to the value of £250

4th prize items the value of £150

5 runner-up prizes:  
Items to the value of £50

### Category B

**Sponsored by Draper Tools**

Predominantly between centres turning

2nd prize items to the value of £350

3rd prize items to the value of £250

4th prize items the value of £150

5 runner-up prizes:  
items to the value of £50

## SPECIAL DISCOUNT FOR AWGB MEMBERS ON ADVANCE TICKETS

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### ADVANCE TICKET APPLICATION FORM FOR AWGB MEMBERS ONLY - NEC

#### ADVANCE DISCOUNT TICKET PRICES: NEC

	On the Door	AWGB Members	No. Req	£Total
Adults	£7.50	£6.00	.....	.....
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Name: (Mr/Mrs/Miss)

Initial.....Surname.....Mem No.....

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Telephone:.....Date:...../...../98

**Send to: Advance Tickets, International Woodworking  
Exhibition NEC, Nexus Special Interests Ltd.,  
Nexus House, Azalea Drive, Swanley, Kent BR8 8HU**

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive direct mail  
from other companies ☐

### REGISTRATION FORM

#### PLEASE NOTE, THIS IS NOT AN ENTRY FORM

#### To be Sent to:

TAKE YOUR TURN Woodturning Competition, Woodworking  
Titles, Nexus House, Azalea Drive, Swanley, Kent BR8 8HY

Name .....

Address .....

Postcode.....Tel No.....

#### Category entered

(Please attach a separate sheet of paper giving separate details  
if more than one item and more than one category is entered)

Description of piece.....

Wood(s) used.....

If a member of a club, please state which one:.....

Date.....Signature.....

Estimated value for insurance.....

This form should be completed and sent to the address shown  
above to arrive not later than 18th September 1998

### ENTRY COUPON

#### 'TAKE YOUR TURN' WOODTURNING COMPETITION

Please tick

CATEGORY 'A' FACEPLATE ☐ A

CATEGORY 'B' BETWEEN CENTRES ☐ B

Please tick which category you wish to enter. When entering  
more than one item please indicate on a separate sheet of  
paper which item is entered into which category

Name.....

Address .....

Postcode.....Tel. No.....



Discount advance ticket hotline

**01322 616310**

Please have your credit card ready

**Closing Date**

**September 11th 1998**

## Affiliated Branches

Due to the number of Branches that are now affiliated to the AWGB it is not possible to get all the details on one page. In future the only information that will be printed will be the Branch name and the name address and telephone number of the Secretary and where necessary an E-Mail address. It would be appreciated if Branch Secretaries could continue sending the other information to me for our records

### AVON & BRISTOL

**Secretary:** Alan George, 276 Filton Avenue, Horfield, Bristol, BS7 0BA

**Telephone:** 01179 697338

### BURCOT WOODTURNERS

**Secretary:** Brian Leake, 36 Oversley Mill Park, Alcester, Warwickshire B49 6LL

**Telephone:** 01789 762650

### CHELMER VALLEY WOODTURNERS

**Secretary:** J Stock, Latneys, Witham, Essex. CM8 1EB

**Telephone:** 01376 520093

### COLCHESTER WOODTURNERS

**Secretary:** Wendy Thompson, 28 Barker Close, Lawford Dale, Manningtree, Essex. CO11 2JW

**Telephone:** 01206 393746

### COOMBE ABBEY WOODTURNERS

**Secretary:** Gerald Griffiths, 78 Despard Road, Eastern Green, Coventry CV5 7DF

**Telephone:** 01203 467765

### CUMBRIA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

**Secretary:** Fred Singleton, 1 Piel View, Gleason, Nr Ulverston, Cumbria. LA12 0QQ

**Telephone:** 01229 869550

### EAST HERTFORDSHIRE

**Secretary:** Nick Bright, 4 Yews Lane, Sawbridgeworth, Herts

**Telephone:** 01279 724038

### EAST SURREY WOODTURNERS

**Secretary:** Bryn Taylor, 99 Croham Valley Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 7JH

**Telephone:** 0181 657 7869

**E Mail:** rpeers@citysys.co.uk

**URL Address:** www.surreyweb.org.uk/east\_surrey\_woodturners/

### HEART OF ENGLAND

**Secretary:** Reg Reed, 1 Churchfield, Welford on Avon, Warwickshire CV37 8ES

**Telephone:** 01789 750221

**E Mail:** rttechservices@btinternet.com

### HERTS & BEDS

**Secretary:** Mike Sheaf, 51 Hart Hill Road, Luton, Bedfordshire. LU2 0BA

**Telephone:** 01582 36382

### KENT BRANCH

**Secretary:** Don Row, 45 West Hill Drive, Dartford, Kent. DA1 3DU

**Telephone:** 01322 270807

### KINGS LYNN WOODTURNERS

**Secretary:** Nigel Hellon, 53 Park Avenue, Kings Lynn, Norfolk PE30 5NL

**Telephone:** 01553 691215

### MIDDLESEX WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

**Secretary:** David Harrop, 68 Burgess Road South, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire. HP9 1EJ

**Telephone:** 01494 678201

**E-Mail:** david@harrop.co.uk

**URL Address:** www.harrop.co.uk

### MID MARCHES WOODTURNERS

**Secretary:** Paul Balcomb, Bodgers, 5 Caefelyn, Norton, Presteigne, Powys. LD8 2UB

**Telephone:** 01544 267010

### MID - STAFFS WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

**Secretary:** Gordon Fradley, Burtonmeades, Orchard Lane, Hyde Lea, Stafford. ST18 9BB

**Telephone:** 01785 247336

### NORFOLK WOODTURNERS SOCIETY

**Secretary:** Bernard Rose, 63 Belmore Road, Thorpe-St-Andrew, Norwich, Norfolk. NR7 0PR.

**Telephone:** 01603 36990

### NORTH LONDON WOODTURNERS GROUP

**Secretary:** Robert Craig, 55 Woodside Park Rd, Finchley, London. N12 8RX

**Telephone:** 0181 446 0679

**E-Mail:** criagr@argonet.co.uk

### SCOTSWOOD

**Secretary:** TBA

**Telephone:** TBA

### STAFFORDSHIRE & SOUTH CHESHIRE WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

**Secretary:** Peter Sandbach, 'Langholm', Checkley Lane, Wrinehill, Nr Crewe, Cheshire. CW3 9DA

**Telephone:** 01270 820477

**E Mail:** sandbachpd@clara.net

### SUFFOLK ESSEX CAMBRIDGE BORDERS

**Secretary:** Patrick White, 62 Chapel Hill, Halstead, Essex CO9 1JP

**Telephone:**

### SUFFOLK MID-COASTAL

**Secretary:** Geoff Moss, 29 Barton Road, Woodbridge, Suffolk. IP12 1JQ

**Telephone:** 01394 383569

### TAYWOOD WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

**Secretary:** William Roger, 17 Garten Street, Broughty Ferry, Dundee. DD5 3HH

**Telephone:** 01382 776682

**E-Mail:** (via Chairman) dwmurray@abel.co.uk

### THAMESIDE WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

**Secretary:** Alfred Hammond, 44 Casleton Road, Wickford, Essex. SS12 0EL

**Telephone:** 01268 734881

### THE VILLAGE TURNERS

**Secretary:** John P. Cranna, 5 Stoke Hill, Oundle, Peterborough. PE8 4BH

**Telephone:** 01832 273377

### WAVENEY & DISTRICT WOODTURNERS

**Secretary:** Colin Barber, 9 Newson Avenue, Mutford, Beccles, Suffolk. NR34 7UN

**Telephone:** 01502 476458

### WEST CUMBRIA

**Secretary:** Enid Winterbottom, 23 Hycemoore Way, Bootle Station, Cumbria. LA19 5XE

**Telephone:** 01229 718622

### WEST MIDLANDS

**Secretary:** Graham Lovett, 66 Beachcroft Road, Wall Heath, Kings Winford, West Midlands. DY6 OHX

**Telephone:** 01384 277398

### WEST NORTHANTS WOODTURNERS

**Secretary:** Malc Hill, 2 Kings Green, Priorys Park, Daventry, Northamptonshire. NN11 4UB

**Telephone:** 01327 872982

### WORCESTERSHIRE WOODTURNERS

**Secretary:** Kate Price, 169 Birmingham Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire. DY10 2SJ

**Telephone:** 01562 741484

# News from the Branches



What is your club like? Ours is a bunch of like-minded people enjoying the pleasure of making useful and pleasing articles from any piece of wood they can get their hands on. Some of these people say they can make a living from it, others do it for the enjoyment it brings.

We all like to turn as often as possible but we meet together on a regular basis about once a month at Burcot Village Hall near Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. This has been happening for a year now with new faces showing up each month. They all get a friendly welcome, novice or expert.

Learning through regular demonstrations is one of the best ways to pick up tips and techniques, straight from the horse's mouth, so to speak. Occasionally one member will have a way of doing something and the others confess to "never having thought of that". We do enjoy our visits from outside demonstrators. July will have seen us all sitting glued to one of Phil Irons' fascinating demonstrations. August will be a "hands on" for all of us with help and encouragement as well as tips from our Chairman and design expert, Paul Tottman.

In September we will get the opportunity to see Ray Jones in action for a full day. With the nights drawing in, in October and November our President and professional turner, Richard Barnes, has two chances to

impress us with a Honey Dipper and some wet wood turning (soaked in beer, maybe?). For the December meeting, Christmas spirit takes over with a social meeting to help the seasonal feeling along.

Come and share your experiences with us and get free coffee and biscuits - just like we do!

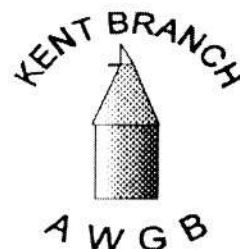
What's your club like?

*Ralph Pinder, Publicity Officer.*



Spring seems to have turned into Summer very rapidly this year and looking back on the past few months very little of consequence seems to have happened. We were due to have enjoyed a demonstration on wet turning from Viv Collins in May but due to his bad back that has had to be postponed to another time. However this seems to have had a beneficial knock on effect as it has encouraged more members to demonstrate their skills to others. One notable demonstration was the turning of lace bobbins by a member whose wife is a skilled lace maker and uses most of his production herself. I have the greatest admiration for anyone turning small items of beauty that are also used in every day pursuits and could be jealous of any turner actively sent to the "shed" to do some work. We have also enjoyed demonstrations of copy turning, spinning tops,

decorative eggs, door handles, natural edge bowls and many other items that our members turn. Last week saw our return to the County Library for a display and sale of member's work. It was encouraging that we were able to show about 100 items of work to the public and make contact with a number of interested groups ranging from women's clubs to local schools. It was suggested by them that we contact them with a view to demonstrating at their meetings and showing the pupils the basic skills of woodturning. This month signals the start of the school holidays and it is our quiet time but we look forward to a visit from Phil Irons in September followed a fortnight later by a day out in Sheffield as guests of Record Tools where we shall have the opportunity to see their range of lathes and tools manufactured from foundry to finishing shop. Casting like woodturning is an ancient trade which has changed little over the years and it will be interesting to see the modern methods that they employ to compete in this highly competitive age.



Looking back over events since my last report. I find that, at one or other of our two venues at which we now meet we have been instructed and entertained by a host of top turners, Brian Partridge, Chris Stott, Dave Reeks (twice) Lionel Pringle, Phil Irons, Mark Baker (Robert Sorby) and Gary Rance with Neil Jarvis, Jimmy

Clewes (Craft Supplies) and Reg Sherwin still to come. Interspersed with these have been demonstrations and talks from club members, Keith Donald, Ian Goodger, Pat & Dennis Gleadell, Peter Fuller and Derek Howard with Ian Sandford (our host at the Apple Craft Centre), Trevor Dawes, Chris Wilson and Dennis Hill to follow. A successful Annual Exhibition & Sale held in December at Faversham, was followed by External Demonstrations at local shows and open days. Starting with Kent Engineering in Jan, Boxley Sawmills Open Day, where some dozen members operated on 6 lathes and Poolewood Spring Show in April with the Sheppey Classic Car Show in May. In August we make our now annual visit to the Museum of Kent Life at Cobtree Nr. Maidstone. These external displays are good training grounds for getting over nerves for performing in public because at the Poolewood Show held at Pett Farm our other venue where Terry Davis is our host) I managed to turn an acceptable bowl. Whether this was the influence of Gar, v, Jimmy, Dave or Mark who were all demonstrating nearby or the fact that most people were watching them, I will leave to your judgement. We do not confine ourselves to turning at these displays, our multi-talented Stan Ludlow demonstrated his skills in pyrography at Pett Farm, whilst Pat Sadler showed her pyrographic art at Boxley. It was whilst demonstrating at Boxley that we learn of the great success of our members in 10th British Gates Turning Point Competition taking ten awards having winners in six of the eight classes. The A.G.M. in March saw Dave Miles stand down as programme organiser after three years being replaced by Pat Sadler for the Apple Craft Centre and Terry Davis for Pett Farm. Bill Carden one of the branch founder members was made an Honorary Member, with the Jim Gall Trophy being awarded to Peter Fuller.

*D. Row, Branch Secretary*

## **NORTH LONDON WOODTURNERS SPONSOR YOUNGSTER**

John is a 12 year old who has always been good with his hands. When he was five he had a toy lathe for turning balsa wood, and after seeing Ian Wilkie demonstrate at one of the big shows he really developed a passion for woodturning. His mother contacted Peter Einig at the AWGB, who referred him on to the local group, North London Woodturners.

One of our members gave John a hands-on tuition session, and the next topic was a lathe of his own. As the family was unable to buy one without assistance, we were able to put him in touch with a local charity who agreed to make a grant towards the cost. With their help, his supportive Mum was able to buy John the equipment he needed. Derek Pyatt of Pyatt Woodworking gave most helpful advice in putting together a good starter lathe, grinder and basic set of tools at a modest price, as well as contributing some timber blanks.

John lost no time in starting turning. Our group loaned him some videos and books, although he would probably benefit from a proper course of tuition. We have provided some more timber, and given him free membership. In turn the AWGB has given him free membership of the national association.

Homework stops John from coming to our midweek meetings, particularly as we tell him that schoolwork must come first, but we keep in touch with him, and he attends our Saturday demos. John has made bowls, egg cups, platters and boxes, as well as some captive rings. His work shows skill, and our group is delighted to have helped him towards fulfilling his aim of becoming a first-class woodturner.

## **Loan Lathes.**

The last eighteen months has seen an increase in the number of lathes the Association has to offer on loan. They even seem to have come out of the shavings looking for new homes.

We now have eight lathes which are loaned out to individuals and Branches - a long way from the single lathe we had a couple of years ago.

The majority of these lathes (each one usually has a chuck and tools) are loaned to junior members who are supported by members in their Branch in a variety of ways. This has complemented our intention to try and get young people involved in our craft by way of Branch sponsorship.

This can only happen with the support of a lot of members who put a lot of time into their Branch work. But there is a need to mention Derek Pyatt of Mid Staffs Branch whose business is buying and selling machinery. Derek helped out North London Branch earlier in the year by finding a suitable lathe for a twelve year old member and has also just refurbished our latest lathe which has also gone to a junior at Burcot Branch.

This is not the first time that Derek has given his time freely to the Association. We would like to record our thanks to him and all the Branch members who give their time freely to further the art and craft of woodturning especially to juniors and new members.

But it is with regret that we must say enough is enough. The lathes have to be found new homes almost every year and nominees are hard to find. In order to ensure that we do not burden ourselves with this, it has been decided that we will not be able to accept any further donations of lathes for Association use. We are grateful to those members who have supported the Association by generously donating lathes to us over the last few years.