

Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

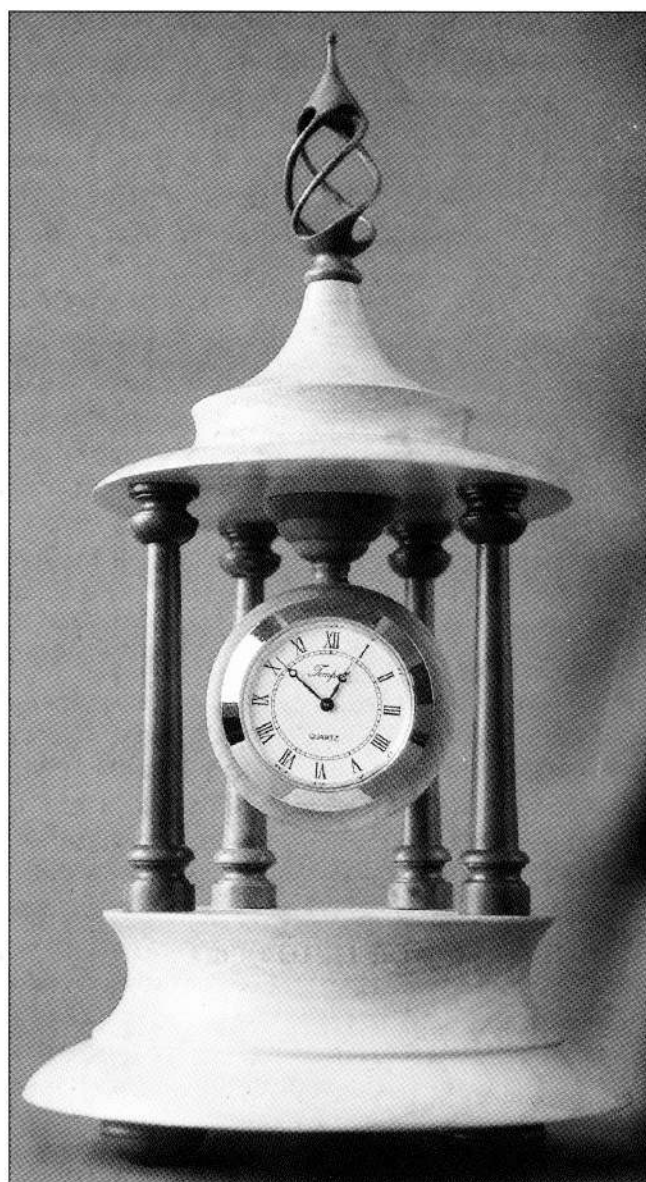
Issue No 51

£1.95 Free to members

November 1999



*Gold Medal
Winners
at the NEC*



Photographs by courtesy of Woodturner Magazine

Chairmans Page

As yet another year has passed and it is time for the elections for posts on the national executive committee a look back at the AWGB's year seems appropriate.

We have, as ever, been represented at major shows. Our presence has usually involved an AWGB dedicated stand and included a display of member's work and a woodturning clinic. Both features have been popular with members and show organisers who repeatedly invite us to attend.

The event of 1999 was the jamboree of woodturning that we organize in the form of the International Seminar at Warwick University. As has already been reported in *Revolutions* and elsewhere, this was highly successful. I think it is worth emphasizing that the Seminar is self-supporting financially and the costs of Seminars are met fully by those attending. No monies from AWGB member's subscriptions contribute in any way towards the event. Profit from the Seminar, when it accrues, gets added to the coffers of the AWGB and is a benefit to members. The Seminar for 2001 has been provisionally booked and plans and discussions are already afoot to plan for it. I look forward to attending the next one, not as Chairman, but as a delegate who can attend all the demonstrations of my choice unhindered by duties and responsibilities of those

who run the event. I certainly regard it as a "must" on the woodturning calendar.

Lots of work goes on in the background within the AWGB and often it is not noticed and rarely publicized. Nonetheless events and activities are organized and take place. One such activity is the loan, allocation and distribution of lathes that the AWGB has at its disposal. Each year these lathes find a worthy home and help members to further their woodturning interest. There are quite a number of lathes now, some originally purchased, and some donated. The logistics of managing this effectively requires much work, negotiating and arranging - it carries on year after year and 1999 was just the same.

As a committee we are constantly and relentlessly examining costs to ensure that income and expenditure balance to give members the best value. I think it can be verified by the fact that the subscription has remained the same for many years. Since I became a member at was around 1990 I have paid the same amount for my subscription each year. I am wondering if any other organization has managed its financial matters so frugally.

Revolutions, our main organ of communication, continues to go from strength to strength and requests from our editor, Mike Dennis, for contributions have borne

fruit. I would like to personally and publicly thank Mike for his work on *Revolutions*. Mike has been editor for a long time and has persistently and relentlessly been determined to continue improvements in both quality and quantity. No sooner have we accomplished one improvement than Mike is considering the next. He has been particularly responsible for developing the use of modern technology in the production of *Revolutions*.

Unseen to members, committee meetings take place at least six times a year (more in a Seminar year) and each committee member can expect to devote a day to each meeting (11am to 5pm) and has to allow for traveling time either side of the meeting. The venue for meetings varies to share the burden but wherever they take place some members always need to travel for several hours to attend. The attendance rate at meetings is very high and committee members go to great lengths to ensure their presence. I can say with confidence that the group of people that work on your behalf at national level are committed, hardworking, generous with their time and effort as well as a good bunch to work with. I would like to thank this group, both now and past, for their continued support for the AWGB.



There is one outstanding contribution that I would like to acknowledge and that is the part that Ray Key has played and continues to play in the AWGB. I continue to admire the work that Ray does and feel that members need to know that he has sustained support for the AWGB over a long period of time and that he continues to do so with generous and selfless effort. Many thanks Ray, from me and the membership.

For me it is a time when I am coming to the end of two years as Chairman and I now stand down having greatly enjoyed both my time on the national executive and my time as Chairman. Being involved at this level is an enriching experience, which I recommend. I now look forward to having time to be more active in the branch to which I belong, Avon & Bristol. I would like to thank my branch for their support and patience as national duties took precedence.

Best wishes to all members for 2000 and beyond and much success and satisfaction in your woodturning.

Continued on page 4

The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

www.woodturners.co.uk

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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: Peter Garrison (Address Opposite)

AWGB LAPEL BADGES

(Brass & Enamel)

COST £2.50 inclusive of post and packing

Send Cheque etc, to Frank Clarke (Address Opposite)

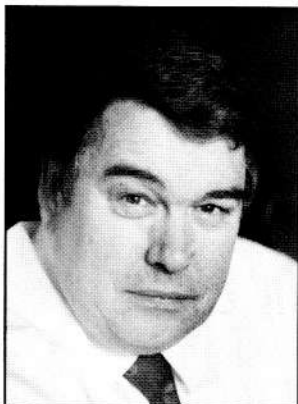
MAKE ALL PAYMENTS TO AWGB

CLOTH BADGES

For sowing on Smocks etc

£4.00 inc Post & Packing

**Copy deadline for the next edition of
Revolutions
15th January 2000**



Editorial

This issue of *Revolutions* will probably be my last as Editor. As explained in my last editorial I am being nominated for the post of Chairman at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting and cannot do both jobs. When I took on the post of Vice Chairman I was not interested in becoming Chairman and hoped that somebody else would come forward. Since that time two years ago I have had a taster for the job when Chris was in hospital for a few months shortly after he was elected, and since that time there has been no indication of anyone else coming forward. I believe that the chairman elect should have some experience in the organisation behind the Association and should therefore have served time on the Executive Committee.

Tony Witham has indicated his willingness to stand for Vice Chairman, a move that I personally welcome. This nomination will mean that he will not be able to take on the role of Branch Representative and branches will have to consider a new nominee.

I am sad that we will lose the services of Frank Clarke at the next AGM. Frank has been a stalwart to the Association and has worked tirelessly for the last 8 years in its development. He and I have worked very closely over the years but he feels he needs a rest and I am sure we all wish him well in the path he decides to take.

We have a volunteer who is willing to take on the job of editor and he will be

co-opted to the Committee at our December meeting. I will leave it up to him to introduce himself to you in the next issue of *Revolutions*. I will give him every assistance I can and wish him every success. I think that it is time for a new editor and a fresh approach to the content and design. I hope that you give him as much support as you have given me over the years and continue sending in articles for publication. I must say however that I am disappointed with the lack of articles for this issue, not only from individuals but also from the branches. We have had no 'Tips for Turners' and have had to co-erse members of the committee to submit some tips. I am also disappointed that no other delegates to the seminar have not sent in any articles. This issue has only 28 pages where 36 pages has been the norm of late.

I have really enjoyed my time as editor since I took on the job in May 1993. Recently I calculated that I have produce 26 copies of *Revolutions* containing 696 pages since I took on the job. I have found it very rewarding and enriching in terms of the various people I have met through the job and the knowledge I have gained about woodturning, not only technically, but also in its development. I have received so much support, not only from all committee members, but also from the editors of *Woodturning* and *Woodturner* magazines, from some of better known professional turners and last but not least individual members of the Association. I would, in particular, like to thank 'Chuck Turner' for the constant supply of articles he has submitted of late.

It is the season of Woodworking shows and I shall be at all those that the AWGB is involved in and one or two others as well. Through my role as editor I have have met so many

people that my attendance at these shows is like going into a club and meeting up with old friends. I like these shows, not only to chat with all my friends, but also to see what new developments have been introduced and to see the new techniques that have evolved to help us all.

In this issue you will find the membership renewal form. This has been printed on a separate sheet this year as many of you, apparently, did not see it when we printed as a page in the newsletter last year. Please fill it in and send with your cheque as soon as possible and not leave it until the new year and lose the form. If you belong to a branch, you should pay through your branch as many of them now operate a combined branch and AWGB subscription. Doing it now also helps Derek, our membership secretary by spreading the load. It will also give him something to do over the Christmas and New Year period.

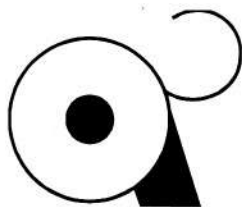
At the last Executive Committee meeting it was decided that if any member is publishing a book or video they can have two adverts in *Revolution* free of charge. In return they have to give the members something back. i.e either postage free for all order or a percentage discount.

Jim Garside - Chairman of the Herts & Beds branch has indicated his willingness to be co-opted to the committee as Treasurer until the AGM. I will be handing the books over to him after the Axminster Exhibition.

Once the Treasurers job and the Editors job is safely handed over I will be able to get down to some serious woodturning, a situation I am really looking forward to.

I am also looking forward to the Axminster Exhibition at Shepton Mallet where I will be on the Asscoiations stand all four days. Please come and say hello.

Mike Dennis



The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the ASSOCIATION
will be held at;

BURCOTE VILLAGE HALL, ALCESTER ROAD, BURCOTE, BROMSGROVE, WORCS.

On Sunday March 12th 2000 and commencing at 2.00pm.

It will be preceded by the
Branch Representatives Annual Meeting which will commence at 11.00am.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will follow the usual pattern of Officers Reports and elections, plus any
motions properly presented according to our Constitution.

All Executive Officer posts are for re-election and nominations are requested. These posts are for one year
except for Vice Chairman who is elected to hold office for two years. Nominations are also requested for one
Executive Committee member who will stand for two years.

It is important to note that Chris Lindup, and Frank Clarke are not seeking re-election.

**MOTIONS AND NOMINATIONS MUST BE IN WRITING AND SUBMITTED TO THE
HONORARY SECRETARY, THE DOWNS VIEW, HAILSHAM ROAD, STONE CROSS, PEVENSEY,
EAST SUSSEX. BN24 5AS E-MAIL: lepringle@clara.co.uk
BY SATURDAY 8th JANUARY 2000.**

The Constitution requires that nominations must be accompanied by a fifty word statement from the nominee
outlining their background and their interest in being a Committee Member and be signed by the proposer and
seconder who must be members.

Branch Secretaries are reminded to consult the Branch Rules concerning the voting procedure for the two
posts that are to be filled by Branch Representatives. Nominations for these posts should be received by the
Branch Co-ordinator before 8th January 2000. The postal ballot will be arranged by the
Branch Co-ordinator and only relates to the voting procedure for the two Branch representative
posts on the Executive Committee.

If any member requires a copy of the Constitution, please send a self addressed and
stamped envelope to the Hon. Secretary.

The Agenda, postal ballot forms (if necessary), and travel directions, will be circulated to you with Revolutions
at the beginning of February 2000. We hope that you can attend and look forward to seeing you on the day.

Lionel Pringle (Honorary Secretary)

ONWARD INTO THE NEXT MILLENNIUM....

A report on N.E.C. by Graham Lovett.

The curtain has again come down on the 1999 International Woodworking and Turning Show at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

Little did we think way back in 1992, when the Association took its first tentative steps at this superb venue, that seven years down the line the A.W.G.B. would still be taking a major part in this now well established Show.

As in previous years the Association was allocated stand space generously donated by Nexus Special Interests Ltd, organisers of the show. This year our stand was located in an area of Hall 10 new to us, and on first sight might have been considered somewhat of a "back water", however, from the number of visitors to both the stand and the Advice Clinic the location was no barrier to the keen woodies.

The stewards on the display stand, and the demonstrators who cheerfully dispensed unbiased advice, were kept busy most of the time. The Advice Clinic is always an attraction and well received by visitors, and this year was no exception. Derek Phillips, Reg Hawthorne, Chris Eagles, Des Dezelski and Mike Stratton cheerfully answered the many and varied queries.

The display of work on the stand was again a superb collection of members work, with 45 pieces from the 50 chosen at the Warwick Seminar on view, supplemented by several exhibits from local sources. At first glance the number of items on show appeared to be down on previous years, but many favourable comments were made on

the quality of the work, with many of the exhibits showing how British woodturning is becoming very much a creative art form. There was much to encourage, inspire and in some cases just marvel at.

The Association has certainly helped to put woodturning on the map and for those who were in at the beginning it must be very satisfying to see how their faith in such an organisation has been rewarded over the years. There can be no doubt that had it not been for the A.W.G.B. then the world of woodturning would not be enjoying the popularity it has today. And while there are many turners not in the embrace of the Association, and for whatever reason do not wish to stand under its banner, it is nice to know that whatever our views might be we can all share in an activity common to us all - WOODTURNING.

Finally I must pay tribute to the stewards in attendance over the three days of the show for their great efforts in welcoming the many visitors to the stand, answering many and varied questions, and through their cheerful friendly manner selecting all that is good in the A.W.G.B., its objectives and aims. So special thanks to Don Moore, Dave Wood, Phil Stevenson, Brian Chamberlain, Geoff Newman, Les Collett, Ralph Pinder, Terry Jones, John Bleasdale, Ray Tunstall, Keith Drew, Alan Jones, Geoff Astin, Gerald Griffiths, Les Stott, Joe Ellis, Ron Dixon, and John Meers. What a team to work with!!!!

See you in the year 2000?

Take Your Turn at the NEC

by Nick Hutton, Editor of The Woodturner (one of the magazines closely associated with the International Woodworking and Turning Exhibition at the NEC) looks back at the show and the competition for woodturners.

I've been to enough woodworking exhibitions to know better. But still after all these years of being involved with the IPC and Nexus organised events at the NEC as well as Wembley, I cannot decide what really attracts me most apart from the buzz of enthusiasts, demonstrators, and other old friends on the trade stands all coming together for several frantic, friendly days. The choice of machinery and tools that I would like to add to my own small workshop is tantalising; the skills of the demonstrators are admirable (even if out of my reach — like the price of some of the machinery); finally there are displays of work in the competitions that I really appreciate because the work is diverse, reflects different levels of skill, but always shows other enthusiasts trying out new ideas for themselves whether copied from traditional designs or emulating new ideas in vogue, or just experimenting with wood on the lathe.

I have to say that I am not an expert. And when involved with the judging of

FRONT COVER

Top left

Dave Roberts

Pair of urns/candlesticks

Bottom left

Tracy Owens

Bowl with applied decoration

Bottom right

Joey Chapell - Bandstand clock

a woodturning competition such as the 'Take Your Turn' at the NEC I do take a back seat and leave it to those experts, in this case Stuart Mortimer, Ray Key, Gary Rance and Stephen Cooper, to fathom the orders of merit. Nevertheless I find myself attracted to those entries which are fresh and new or which I feel I might like to have a go at myself, simply because they interest me and because they would exercise my own skills in the way that different elements have been put together: it might be shape, it might be colour, it might be a decorative technique, or it might be a simple idea such as a toy, clock or lamp that just seems a little different, or which so clearly lends itself to being turned in wood on the lathe. However, that is just my personal outlook which corresponds more to the criteria of the competition which look for originality in approach and design and overall appeal — it is the other elements of technique and finish which also come into play when work comes under the scrutiny of the judges, and it is here where attention to detail really counts.

With bowls giving way more and more to hollow vessels of different depths and apertures, then what is looked for here is not just technique in achievement (many of these pieces are in no way easy to carry out if uniform wall thickness or thinness is to be

achieved), but also the whole concept of form and carrying through the shaping from start to finish. Whether it is in the judging (or during your turning), it is always worth standing back from the work to look closely at how the line of the profile flows — flat spots, unevenness or a broken curve or line are all giveaways that will detract from the finished work.

Similarly if there is poor tooling in the piece, then it will show. Poor cuts cannot be remedied by aggressive use of sanding, and similarly if there is insufficient sanding through the grades to progressively reduce cut marks from the tool and then from the coarser grits, this too will show. And the finish, too, when applied will highlight the problems that are underneath no matter how much attention is given to this.

Spindlework has a different set of problems, because here the shaping is often in the detail. It doesn't matter if it is a matching pair of objects or a whole set of matching components such as the spindles in a chair or the spokes of a spinning wheel. Here beads, quirks and shoulders are used to define changes in the line and need to be clean cut and well defined. Such features must also match, not just in spacing but also in diameter and uniformity — not an easy task if there are a dozen or so matching elements

in a piece. But then again it is all about care, measuring and matching, and making sure that sharp edges are not destroyed when it comes to sanding with the features accidentally being rounded over.

In terms of the actual items presented for the competition this year then it was really a good mix of traditional and modern. And it was inspiration drawn from a traditional form that gave Dave Roberts the idea for his pair of reversible top candlestick/urn vases which won the overall winner prize with the award of Hegner lathe for the best piece in both sections.

This was not to put down the quality of work in the Category A section of predominantly faceplate turned pieces, for the bowl by Tracy Owen (and he submitted several items of very quality), and the bowl in cherry by Rod Bonner were both beautifully made, simple forms with a touch of added detail to give them an extra lift. In fact this is where we hoped that the introduction of Medals would give some extra help in rewarding true merit, and Dave Roberts, Tracy Owen and Rod Bonner were all awarded 'Golds', along with Joey Chapell whose delicate bandstand clock in sycamore and pink ivory took the number one spot in the spindle section.

The Medals, we hope, will be treasured by those who win them, both here and of course in future competitions at Wembley and the NEC. They give us a means of recognising work of high quality even beyond the conventional prize structure of simple 1, 2, 3 placings. Thus whilst Silver Medals tied in with other principal prize placings, we also awarded Bronze Medals to Runners Up in both sections with Jim Coakes and R. Hasleden receiving Bronzes for the jewellery box and carved lace edge bowl respectively in Category A, and Mr Hasleden receiving another Bronze for his small and very finely twisted stem goblet in Category B.



The Judges - From left to right Gary Rance, Stephen Cooper, Stuart Mortimer and Ray



Roger Foden's American Style Rocking Chair in Oak - Joint winner of the Visitors' Choice Trophy sponsored by the AWGB

Anyone who looks at the pieces on display or even sees them in photographs will probably pick out their own favourites, and without the benefit of being able to pick up and handle the pieces to inspect them closely will probably have different ideas to the judges. This is where the Visitors' Choice trophies presented by the AWGB come in. After joint winners in the previous year's NEC competition, this year the Committee decided to award a trophy for each section. And, with a very wide spread of votes taking in all from coloured work to the chairs and spinning wheels, the highest number of votes went to the bandstand clock from Joey Chapell (a relative newcomer to the woodturning world) and to Roger Foden for his high gloss finished hollow form vase in yew. The latter piece did not even make it into the runners up section, but then again perhaps we should all think again whether gloss finished pieces are still not in vogue.

My congratulations go to all the winners and my thanks also go to all who took the trouble to enter work.

The displays are an important feature of the shows, and I would encourage all who may have thought about entering, but didn't, to have a go next time. It's all about seeing what is the best that you can do, and don't be put off by the fact that you think there may be someone out there who is better than you.

The Wembley show is scheduled for 17th to 20th February, and whilst we are still in the process of sorting out the details of the competitions, I can at least tell you that the theme will be 'From Tree to Treen'. This ties in with the fact that our 'Food for Thought' and kitchen based theme competitions always proved very popular, so to give it a change and yet encourage many to take part, we are trying to keep a pretty open area for the subject. Treen is a very wide term and can take in so many things made of wood, whether for everyday domestic use or rarer items of greater beauty and finesse for special occasions, but all of which tend to serve a specific function. I will have to research the subject further, as I am sure many of you will to get ideas, but I hope that the entries will be many and the display at Wembley a tribute to woodturners of all levels of skill and wide imaginations.

Finally, let me thank the competition sponsors for the 'Take Your Turn' Competition at the NEC. These were



Dave Roberts with his pair of Urns/ Candlesticks - Overall winner of the Hegner Lathe and Gold Medal



Joey Chapell with her bandstand clock - Joint winner of the Visitors' choice trophy and Gold medal

Hegner UK, Craft Supplies, EzeLap and Draper Tools. These companies give high value prizes which are a further incentive to take part in what should be a challenge to you to produce your best work yet.

Woodturning Competition 'Take Your Turn'

Overall winner - Dave Roberts
Gold Medal - Pair of candlesticks /urn vases Padauk, boxwood

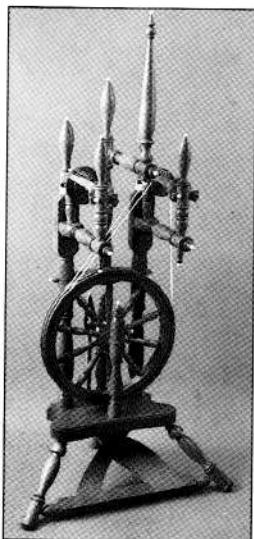
Category A

(Predominantly faceplate turning)

1st prize - Tracy Owen
Gold Medal - Bowl with applied carved decoration Ash
2nd prize - Rod Bonner
Gold Medal - Bowl with nickel inset rim decoration Cherry
3rd prize - Robert Fletcher
Silver Medal - Multi-faceted fruit bowl Yew
Bronze Medals - Runners Up
Jim Coakes Jewellery box - Cocobolo
R. Hasleden Carved 'lace edge' bowl Olive

Runners Up

John Austin - Lyre clock Yew
J.H. Johnston - Hollow form with square base Sycamore, pink ivory
C. Fullbrook - Carved edge lily vase Sycamore



Rod Bonner's
Spinning wheel

Other entries
Tracy Owen
Hollow form
yew vase;
Desmond
Dezelsky
Millenium
platter; Dave
Reeks 'Eclipse'
platter; Dave
Roberts Burr
elm platter; A.
Cliffe Pin box;
A.F. Hickson
Basket bowl in
cherry; Ralph
Harvey Natural
edge burr elm
forms; M. Pugh Elm fruit bowl; R.
Larkin Natural edge mulberry bowl;
P.M. Gleadbil Square edge bubinga
bowl; John Greer Hollow form in
walnut; G. Latimer Small ash bowl; G.
Stephens Hollow vase in burr oak; F.E.
Green Candle bowl in mahogany; Ian
Carre Decorative vase in yew; J.
Benley Bowl in burr elm; R.F.
Wooldridge Laburnum fruit bowl; Mr
Garfield Beech dish with yew inserts;

D. Gleeson Wassail set; D. Rendle Vase
in pine, syammore and mahogany;
Roger Foden Hollow form vase in
yew; M.P. Rickards Large bowl in burr
elm; T. Walton Three vessels; T.
Kingston Hollow form vase in yew; D.
Murray Fruit stand in maple and
beech; Lofty Marshall Vase with metal
inserts; Tracy Owen Ash bowl; Harry
Memelink Hollow forms in various
timbers.

Category B (Predominantly spindle turning)

1st prize - Joey Chapell

Gold Medal - Bandstand clock
Sycamore, pink ivory

2nd prize - Rod Bonner

Silver Medal - Spinning wheel Iroko

3rd prize - Roger Foden

Bronze Medal - American style rocking
chair Oak

Bronze Medals

R. Hasleden Goblet with twisted stem
Ebony

Other Runners Up

Jim Coakes Clock African blackwood
Desmond Dezelsky Pair of candlesticks
Australian blackwood

A.F. Hickson Bud vase Dyed oak
R. Simms Footstool / table
American oak

Other entries Mr B. Shore,
Mushrooms; Mr W. Brown Hollow
form vases; David Bryant Scottish
spinning wheel and Shropshire
corner chair; Mr Birtwistle Victorian
push-along toy; Mr Garfield Oil lamp
stands and three legged stand; Mr J.
Cordwell Ash lamp.

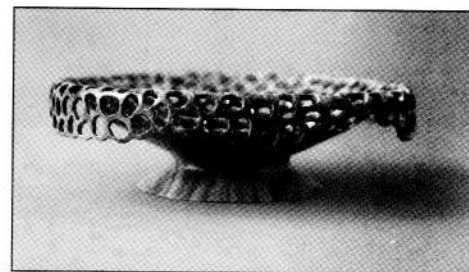
AWGB Trophies for Visitors' Choice

Category A - Roger Foden

Hollow form vase Yew

Category B - Joey Chapell

Bandstand clock Sycamore, pink
ivory



R. Hasleden - Carved lace edge bowl

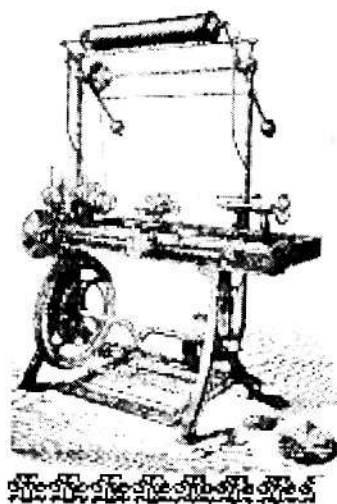
ATME

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Tips for Turners

This is a new section and has been inspired by Frank Clarke. If you have any handy hints or tips please send them to Frank (Address on page 2)

Three tips from Lionel Pringle

1) While turning your own tool handles, in order to ensure that the ferrules are a really tight fit turn the spigot fractionally oversize. Place the ferrule in boiling water, (don't use the best kitchen saucepan), and leave to simmer for a short while, the heat will cause the ferrule to expand and it will slide easily into place on the spigot, when it cools it will be a good tight fit.

2) A useful item for storing your tools near to hand but away from the shavings is in a length of plastic rainwater guttering fixed in a handy position at eye level, either in front of you or to one side, it is more useful than a shelf as the tools won't roll away.

3) Always keep a stub of a candle close to hand, it can be used to "grease" the bed bars which will make the movement of toolrests and tailstock easier. A light application to the the top of the toolrest will help your tools flow more smoothly across it. A little wax will always make long hole boring a little easier too.

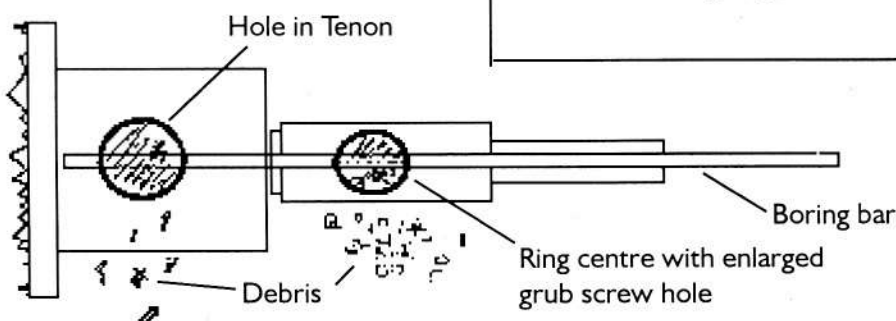
One from David Grainger

Most of us will make a table lamp or a standard lamp at some time or other. Anyone who attends my course will make one. However, I cannot think of any other use for that bit of kit except for boring through material to accept a length of flex. The kit usually consists of a boring tool usually 5/16 in diameter, A four pronged drive centre with a centre spigot, and a ring centre for the tailstock with a removable centre. This is usually held in place with a grub screw. I just happen to have two such ring centres, one of which I have lost the centre (and the grub screw). The other is still intact and servicable.

One of the problems some of us experience when boring through is getting rid of the waste. Often the tool tends to jam in the waste, at other times the waste tends to clog up the tailstock quill making it difficult to remove the tool.

I've overcome this by using the conventional ring centre simply to make the supporting ring, and then changing it for the obsolescent one. I've enlarged the tapped grub screw hole. The waste material from the "through hole" is ejected through the enlarged grub screw hole rather than through the tailstock.

If you don't happen to have two ring centres, or you don't want to drill holes in a good one. drill a hole through the side of the tenon at the foot of the column being drilled at right angles to the flex hole. This will be similarly effective in getting the waste out before it clogs up the tailstock



I need wood for Turning - Like a need a hole in the head

by Chuck Turner

Yes! that is what I say to myself, and indeed others, every time I am tempted to purchase that extra piece of nice grained wood.

I have a specially built wood shed - a leanto up against a brick wall in the back garden. Its about 10 feet long - 2 feet 6 inches deep and about 8 feet high with a clear corrugated plastic roof sloping forward.

There is a door on one end covered with plastic mesh (to allow the passage of air). This however is always covered on the inside with plastic sheeting to stop the rain getting in. (A major design fault!)

There are 2 levels of shelving, slatted to allow the passage of air, which have had to be covered to stop the small bits falling through (another design fault!).

Along the front are four pull out and down panels - 2 handles on each which enable me to look inside, and hopefully, gain access to my stored wood.

There is so much bunged in there that I have had to buy a hard hat, to wear for protection against great chunks falling off the top shelf onto my head, when I am investigating the bottom

shelf! (yes I need wood for turning like I need a hole in the head! without my hard hat I probably would have just that).

So why was it? While attending a recent Woodworking and Turning exhibition I was tempted once again.

There were a number of stalls selling very good wood, in many forms usually just wax sealed at the end grain, or in the case of bowl blanks waxed round the edges, leaving of course bare wood areas to allow a slow seasoning to continue when placed in store.

It was 1600 on Sunday, the last day and a small frenzy of cut price selling was developing around the hall, as exhibitors frantically tried to get rid of items they didn't want to package up again!

Why then did I go to a stall where all the chunks of wood had been wax dipped - that is full covered in wax?

Well the grain looked fantastic, the prices were give away!

I came away well pleased with my purchases, for the moment, but! and here in lies the point of this cautionary tale.

Wax used like this fills all the cracks so completely that they are almost indistinguishable from the grain, and to make matters worse, the wood itself cannot lose any more moisture. At leisure at home again more careful examination of my booty revealed, that many of the dark lines of grain were indeed cracks running hither and hither through these nearly useless bits of wood.

Of course the originators of this kind of material will tell you. Oh! you can easily fill those cracks with Super Glue while turning - the thin kind is especially good!

I think I may have a hole in my head already!!!!

Woodturning: A Fresh Approach

By Robert Chapman

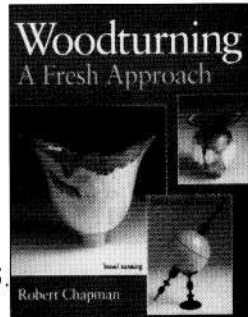
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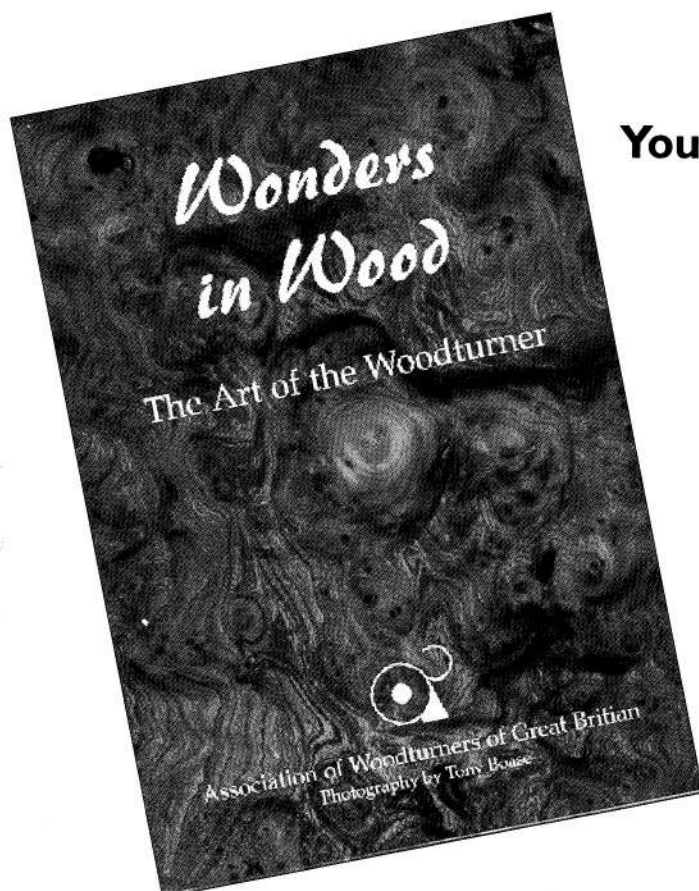
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Cheques with order made payable to the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain for the full amount, including P&P, quoting your membership number, name and address please.

So you want to be a Woodturner

Part 3

by Chuck Turner

Turning tools. Can be roughly divided into 3 basic types, gouges, chisels & scrapers, a set usually consists of a Roughing Gouge, Spindle Gouge, Round Nosed Scraper, Skew Chisel & Parting tool. However composition of sets varies between manufacturers.

What turning tools will be best for me?

This will depend on the size of lathe you have bought, obviously if you have bought a small mini lathe the tools you will require are only small ones which can be bought singly or in sets of about five. There are what might be called medium sized sets of tools, these usually consist of 3/4" Roughing Gouge, 1/4" Spindle Gouge, 3/8" Bowl Gouge, 3/4" Skew Chisel, 1/8" parting tool, and a round nose scraper. These tools can be bought singly, and are all you need initially to carry out all basic turning operations.

Should I buy Carbon or (HSS) High Speed Steel tools?

I would think that most Turners initially bought Carbon Steel, as they are usually much cheaper, However HSS tools seem to keep their edge much longer and are capable of being ground to a finer edge. There are Turners, who I know, who nevertheless still like Carbon Steel and use these tools regularly. Carbon Steel tools have to be sharpened more often in my opinion. My own set of Carbon Steel tools are not used very often but nevertheless are useful.

What about Tools made from old Files?

There is no doubt that this type of steel grinds to a very sharp edge and cuts well with very little re-grinding. However File Steel is very brittle, and they can be very dangerous,

particularly if the cutting edge is extended much beyond the tool rest while in use. There is a good possibility that the file will snap under pressure, and the piece which comes off, takes up the characteristics of shrapnel. It has happened to me with a home made Round Nosed Scraper used well over the tool rest, deep into the bottom of a vase. The tip about an inch long, broke off without warning, with near disastrous results. Better not used if possible.

Can I make my own Tools?

Small tools for turning can be made from old second hand carpenters chisels or gouges providing a good grindstone is available and they are suitably rehandled. The steel is often of very good quality, but they should not be used in heavy cuts, as often the tang is the weak soft area. For very small work some Turners make miniature tools from oboe nails, but they are of a fairly brittle nature and can only be used for light cutting on small or miniature work. Lengths of HSS tool steel can be purchased from some suppliers for Turners to make up their own special tools. Cork Handles can be made up from fishing rod handle cork, but the steel shaft needs to be long enough to extend right through the handle.

Why are some turning tools supplied without handles?

Turning Tools can be purchased with, or without handles. Those supplied without handles are usually a bit cheaper and you can turn handles for them to suit your own requirements. Handles are usually made of Ash or Beech but any reasonably close grained hard wood will suffice. Brass ferules of various sizes, can be obtained cheaply from most

woodturning suppliers.

There are lots of other different Tools ! What should I buy?

Tool Manufacturers these days are regularly bringing out many new turning tools, some are very good, others perhaps a bit difficult to get used to. Many only do what the basic tools will do. Get used to the basic tools first and learn to use them well - later when they have been mastered and other essential equipment bought, you may want to purchase a special tool from time to time.

Where can I keep the Tools?

It is useful to plan storage of the tools as near as possible to your lathe, preferably within easy reach while you are turning. Some Turners make up wooden racks drilled to accept the tool up to the handle, but this can have the disadvantage of causing the shaft to fall out, after being regularly dropped into place in the rack. In this case it may be necessary to secure the handle with Aroldite Glue. With some thought and good carpentry a free standing tool rack can be made up if sufficient room is available. There is no doubt that well planned tool storage, with easy access while turning, is a great convenience. Magnetic tool racks can be purchased, but they could be expensive if a number are required.

A table or work bench adjacent to the lathe, is an advantage, if tools are stored in tool rolls or normally kept in cupboards or drawers. They can then be laid out to provide easy access while turning. If possible tools should be stored separated from each other to avoid damage to the cutting edges and occasionally given some anti rust treatment.

Woodworkers World Exhibition at Watford

By Mike Dennis

It is the Woodworking exhibition season and I seem to get quite involved in most of them on the Association's behalf. I accompanied Frank Clarke with a van to collect all of the exhibits from the NEC so that we would have them for the Watford exhibition. They were stored at my home for the two weeks between the exhibitions. Peter Garrison took them from Watford and is storing them until the Axminster Exhibition. From there they will go into storage until February where they will then go to Wembley. It is anticipated that they will then go on to a new exhibition being planned for East Anglia in March. After which they will be returned to their makers. All of this movement takes a lot of planning and co-ordination, most of which is carried out by Frank Clarke.

Woodworkers World was a new venture organised by Powertek the tool shop in Watford with branches in Shoreditch and Havant. It was a small exhibition compared with the national events but nevertheless was well attended. Powertek provided the AWGB with two stands free of charge, one with the exhibits of members work and the other as a woodturners advice clinic. Members of the Middlesex and the Herts & Beds

branches staffed both stands. Both branches also supplied demonstrators to work on the Record CL3 lathe that Powertek also supplied. They were kept constantly busy with the many and varied questions from the public attending the exhibition. The traders at these events have also grown wise to the fact that we run these advice clinics and refer members of the public to us if they are given woodturning related questions that they cannot answer.

The display of work also caused much interest because of the diversity of skills required in the pieces on display. Graham Lovatt has already reported on this display in the NEC article.

Both branches had many enquiries about their activities but we will not know how this transpires into numbers of new members until they come along to next available club night and enrol.

It is the first time that the Herts & Beds branch have been involved in a national event on behalf of the AWGB and I want to thank Jim Garside and his members for the help they gave with the Middlesex branch in promoting the Association at this event



EXHIBITION OF WOODTURNING LAUNCHES AWARD WINNING BOOK

An exhibition of turned wood by
Robert Chapman

will be held at the Apple Crafts Centre, Selling Rd, Faversham, Kent (Next door to Axminster Power Tools)
27th and 28th of November 1999.

The exhibition is being staged to coincide with the launch of his book

WOODTURNING

- A FRESH APPROACH

which has recently been awarded the
Certificate of Excellence
by the **British Crafts Guild.**



*Hollow vessels - diameter 6cm Ash,
Laburnum and Orange Box*

Visitors to the exhibition will be able to view, and purchase, some of the designs created especially for the book alongside many other new and previously unseen designs. Robert will be signing copies of his book throughout the duration of the exhibition.

Admission and parking is free. No wheelchair access as the gallery is situated on the first floor. For further information contact the organiser on
01622 747325.



*Lidded globe boxes on pedestals
diameter 7.5cm
from left: kingwood/tulipwood, elm/plum
and yew/Ric rosewood."*

To Sell or Not To Sell

By Peter Charles Fagg

The ONLY member of the Isle of Wight Group that doesn't as yet exist.

Or notes to beginners in Woodturning who are not quite sure what to do once the house and immediate environs overflow with creations.

Being one of the new boys in turning I have often felt that the pieces I am producing are one-off masterpieces that I alone should retain.

The thought that anyone would want to purchase my wonderful creations almost made my blood run cold. Nevertheless I had to face the fact that in the Three years that I have attempted to capture the essence of nature's wonders the quantity of finished bowls has grown enormously. So much so that I no longer had storage space, and the house and my dear lady wife had had their fill. I had given the matter some consideration but honestly didn't know where to start.

Initially I approached a local gallery which agreed to exhibit some Five bowls and being a novice in this area set prices that I thought were a little excessive considering it was a hobby.

Eventually the gallery owner contacted me to say that ONE of MY bowls had sold. JOY! I was on my way! The cheque arrived in the post for the princely sum of Sixteen pounds exactly the same as I had paid for the blank!

In my naivety I had forgotten the commission of Forty Percent. The news left me somewhat crestfallen and somewhat depressed because it meant that I must make my prices more realistic to cover the commission.

This did not work! The increase in prices meant that untidy workmanship would not be accepted and what was alright for nearest and dearest would not work in the marketplace.

The situation called for a revamping of ideas and usage of equipment, many jigs were constructed and discarded, many pieces of timber were gouged, chopped and brutally assaulted until I came up with what I considered a winning formula.

IF only I knew then what I know now!

Last year the OUTDOOR ARTS and CRAFTS SHOW had been featured in the local paper as something that had attracted many hundreds of visitors. Photographs showed people queuing at the various stalls, brilliant sunshine brought out those less likely to attend such events. Sales had been very profitable and a good day was had by all!! Therefore I embarked on my First craft show. It was obviously just the outlet for all this hard work. To that end I booked time off from my daily work and sent off my application form and cheque for the table booking.

Wanting to uphold and promote the Association I approached Mr Frank Clarke who was most helpful in providing a copy of the "Wonders in Wood" a huge number of information leaflets and of course his enthusiasm. I would be needing the last item.

The summer this year has been one of the best for a long time and many days have been filled with warmth and sunshine. BUT not the day of the OUTDOOR ARTS and CRAFTS it poured in such quantities that flash floods occurred in many places. The show and all its paraphernalia were moved (no wrong word) squeezed into the parish hall across the road. The organisers did their best ;but try to imagine Thirty stallholders in a space for perhaps TEN and it conjures up wonderful images of mayhem.

We spent Five and a Half hours in that

area trying to contend with wet people, Brollies, raincoats, and the inevitable ones who stated "I do that in my garage

And I don't reckon you're doing it properly" "Would you be interested in forming a society and sharing your experience" "Not ***** likely!"

BUT I wouldn't have missed it for the world.

3000 for 2000

by Lionel Pringle

Those of you who regularly make a habit of perusing the woodturning press will already be aware of the Irish Woodturners Guild's ambitious millenium candlestick project, for those of you that are not let me please take a moment of your time to go through the details.

Unlike the AWGB our Irish counterparts have always held a national seminar every year and like all organisations of merit it seems that they wish to make their event in the year 2000 something a little special. Because, for the first time in their history, the event is going to be held in Northern Ireland, they felt that the opportunity presented itself to make a significant gesture to the people who have suffered there during the last decades of the twentieth century. So, to this effect they have decided to turn in excess of 3000 candlesticks, each candlestick will represent a victim of violence in the North, the candlesticks will be donated to a local charity. As the Secretary of the Guild, Ambrose O'Halloran, said "it is a small gesture

that collectively symbolises so much."

On the scale of human suffering in Northern Ireland it may well be considered to be a small gesture but for a relatively small association of woodturners it is a somewhat daunting task, and so to this end the IGW have decided to enlist the help of the membership of the AWGB and the American Association of Woodturners in order to be able to reach this mammoth total, if they are successful the prospect of seeing so many candlesticks of varying sizes and designs in one place is quite mind boggling.

At the time of writing this article no official cut-off date for completion or destination for the finished item has been arrived at, but it would do no harm whatsoever if our members were to make a start now on producing their own individual contribution. A spare couple of hours, away from all the hype, used effectively during the New Year weekend would seem to me to be a sensible way of starting the next century in a mood of peace and understanding.

In closing may I also add that in the future it is also proposed that the AWGB and the IWG have closer formal, and informal, links with one another, the logistics of taking an active part in events organised in the respective countries will need closer looking at, everything, unfortunately, comes at a price these days. But there is no reason why the informal links should not begin to be forged, on a purely personal level I for one have already become a member of the IWG and I would urge any other member who is enthusiastic about their woodturning to do the same, after all Ireland is not that far away from us and they tell me the world is getting smaller all the time. Anybody who is interested is welcome to contact me in the first instance and I will point them in the right direction.

NVQ in Woodturning

by Clive Much

The National Vocational Qualification is a standard that can be recognised by a prospective employer.

The question is how many employers are seeking to employ woodturners?

I don't know of any - ask Ray Jones or Gary Rance, do they know any.

The first NVQ course was in fact run at Warwickshire College, Leamington Spa in February 98.

Several other establishments are now running courses and I can only think that the people registering for these courses have some reason for doing so other than seeking a job.

The certificate will be nice to hang on the wall in the workshop or garage but will be as much use as "a letter of thanks from the management" The course is furniture related and will include routing on the lathe, sharpening, fettling and honing. This includes chisels, planes, saws, drill bits, scrapers and squares. Oiling and greasing various manual and powered equipment and tools. "Have you tried using greased tools in a woodturning workshop", don't they get nice and fluffy! It includes packing turned wood products, carrying out minor repairs and so on. The paper work is mind blowing.

Note: Not a bowl to be seen anywhere, thank heavens.

I had always thought that the AWGB had been involved in the original discussions that took place when this qualification was being drawn up. When deciding which body to make responsible for the qualification, there were no alternatives and so the furniture industry got it.

How many of us need a document showing that we have taken part in a

course and achieved the required standard?

When I asked one fellow turner, why he wanted to go on a course, he said that he wanted to start teaching. I do feel that some standard is needed for those people who profess to teach but I don't think this is it.

Ask those professional turners already mentioned to show you their certificates. I am sure that they would rather show you the results of their work.

I believe that Lionel Pringle is correct when he states that the membership is composed of a vast majority of retired hobbyists.

In the AWGB's last survey, 12.29% of 423 members covered are professionals and so far they have made it without any recognised qualification other than the quality of their work.

Before signing up for what is an expensive course ask yourself why you are spending this money and what you hope to gain by it. If the reason is to have something to hang on the wall, then go for it. The cost is about £350.

Warwickshire College offers evening courses in wood turning and day courses in furniture making. Details from the college at New St. Leamington Spa- Tel: 01926 318233 or 01926 318238.

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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 only the Branch name and the name address and telephone number of the Secretary and where necessary an E-Mail address will be printed.

	Telephone	E-mail
AVON & BRISTOL		
Secretary: Mrs Julie Heryet, 92 Coombe Dale, Sea Mills, Bristol. BS59 2JE	0117 968 3440	
BURCOT WOODTURNERS		
Secretary: John Pearce, 84 Shaw Lane, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, B60 4DX	01527 878369	
CHEAM WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION		
Secretary: Len Sanderson, 105 Abbots Road, Cheam, Surrey SM3 9ST.	0181 644-6911	
CHELMER VALLEY WOODTURNERS		
Secretary: J Stock, Latneys, Witham, Essex. CM8 1EB	01376 520093	
COLCHESTER WOODTURNERS		
Secretary: Wendy Thompson, 28 Barker Close, Lawford Dale, Manningtree, Essex. CO11 2JW	01206 393746	
COOMBE ABBEY WOODTURNERS		
Secretary: Geoff Astin, 24 Rugby Road, Dunchurch, Rugby Warwickshire CV22 6PN	01788 810431	geoffrey.astin@cwcom.net
CUMBRIA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION		
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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE		
Secretary: Don Stuart, 155 Churchgate, Cheshunt, Herts, EN8 9DY	01992 636967	
EAST SURREY WOODTURNERS		
Secretary: Bryn Taylor, 99 Croham Valley Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 7JH	0181 657 7869	bryngt@aol.com
URL Address: www.surreyweb.org.uk/east_surrey_woodturners/		
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URL Address: http://members.aol.com/brianpart/secbhome.html		
SUFFOLK MIDCOASTAL		
Secretary: Geoff Moss, 29 Barton Road, Woodbridge, Suffolk. IP12 1JQ	01394 383569 (via)-	andrew.galant@breathe.co.uk
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Secretary: Will Sang, Torridon Road, Broughty Ferry, Dundee. DD5 3JD	01382 477841 (via Chairman)	anakali@bigfoot.com
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Secretary: Enid Winterbottom, 23 Hycemoore Way, Bootle Station, Cumbria. LA19 5XE	01229 718622	
WEST MIDLANDS		
Secretary: Phil Stephenson, 1 Willoughby Drive, West Midlands, B91 3GB	0121 705 9794	phil@stevenson20.freemove.co.uk
URL Address: www.stevenson20.freemove.co.uk/awgb/		
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Chairman: Ernie Potter, Copper Beech, Earls Barton Road, Mears Abbey, Northampton. NN6 0DR	01604 810434	
WORCESTERSHIRE WOODTURNERS		
Secretary: Pam Norris, 'Rowan Trees', Uphampton, Ombersley, Nr Droitwich, Worcestershire, WR9 0JP	01905 620633	

News from the Branches

Another new branch

The 31st branch of the Association has just started in Surrey. 30 prospective members attended the inaugural meeting on Thursday 21st October to form the Cheam Woodturners Association. Until the AGM which is to be held on Thursday 17th February 2000 Frank Clark has taken on the role of Chairperson and Len Saunderson acting as Secretary/Treasurer. All enquiries to the Secretary:

Len Saunderson
105 Abbotts Road
Cheam
Surrey
SM3 9ST.

Tel: 0208 644 6911

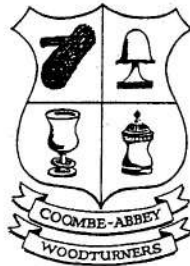
They meet on the Third Thursday of each month, at
Cheam Methodist Church Hall
Church Hill Road
Cheam, Sutton, Surrey.
commencing at 8.00pm.

Furness Woodturning and Woodcrafts Association

Due to changing circumstances the Branch will in future meet at the Rampside Village Hall. They will usually meet on the third Friday of each month but this could change. Please contact the secretary in advance if you wish to attend

Northolt Aerodrome.. Middlesex is one of the oldest branches within the AWGB and continues to thrive. It is anticipated that the new venue will attract even more members as it is more convenient to reach and has a comfortable atmosphere complete with a licensed bar where members can enjoy a beverage or two if they wish. A full and varied programme exists to educate, inform and entertain the members in all aspects of woodturning. Any member wishing to join us should contact the acting Secretary Adrian Needham, 114 Slough Road, Datchet, Berkshire. SL3 9AF Telephone: 01753 593771

The Secretary David Harrop is off for three months travelling the world and Adrian has agreed to be co-opted until the AGM in February.



Saturday, 3 July 1999 was the culmination of weeks of arranging, organising and planning to bring to fruition a day for Club members to extend a hand of friendship to woodturners of other Midland Clubs

by holding a "Turner's Day". Ideally held in the grounds of Coombe Abbey Country Park, near Coventry Coombe Abbey Woodturners were hosts to club members of AWGB Branches, West Northants, West Midlands and Mid-Staffs who brought displays of their work and their lathes to demonstrate and join in the competitions. Those Clubs who were invited and failed to materialise missed a great day. The Little Craft Company, of Lichfield, and Strettons of Coventry were on hand to supply turners with many of their needs.

Although the general public was not admitted many of the members brought guests and friends who were entertained by both watching and taking part in pole lathe turning, trying out the shaving horses and treadle lathe. Both turners and novices alike tried their hand under supervision. Hold your hand up all those who thought it was a piece of cake! ! There were also 12 lathes in operation with on-going demonstrations, and a Trouble-shooting Clinic run by Roger Warren-Finding whose advice was much sought after and freely given.

Items of work from each Club were displayed in various areas giving a lot of interest and talking points for everyone, and for those who thought they knew it all, there were wood and leaf recognition games.



Middlesex have relocated their venue. They continue to meet on the second Thursday of each month, but the venue is now the Gaelic Athletic Association Sports Ground, West End Road, Ruislip. The venue is conveniently located just off the A40 by the Polish War Memorial and



Grateful thanks must go to the very generous donors of the prizes: Forte Posthouse Hotel of Coventry - a weekend for two, plus meals; Strettons of Coventry - a set of miniature turning tools, Wes Howarth - four bottles of wine; Roger Warren-Finding - three turning chisels; Coombe Abbey Club - a box of chocolates.

Both Roger Warren-Finding, President of Coombe Abbey Woodturners and the Chairman, Roy Nicholls, were full of praise for their many members who supported them wholeheartedly and grateful thanks must go to those who helped to make such a success of the day. Roger said - although the event was a great success, being the first of its



kind we have learnt some lessons and gained some knowledge and consequently if we hold a similar event next year we hope the planning and

arranging will be easier! Who knows, we may even consider holding a two-day event and opening to the public on the second day!

Turning for Children

Our branch Chairman, Albert Lain, was of the opinion that our branch was well capable of holding a manned exhibition and he put this before the members at our AGM in January this year. The idea being to encourage members to make and donate woodturnings which would be sold at the week long exhibition. The proceeds would be given to a charitable cause. The membership agreed. One of our lady members, Sue Harvey, suggested that the charity

should be the Children's Hospice which was to be opened in July 99 in Ipswich. The membership agreed. The committee co-opted Michael Izzard as a hospice representative. The venue was chosen as the Pond Gallery, Snape Maltings, a popular attraction in itself. The dates to be prime holiday time 29 July to 4 August and also the commencement of the Promenade concerts. Along the way we found support in our local radio and local newspapers who proved to be

generous to our cause. Members of the public responded by contacting members with offers of timber. This timber was collected and passed on to members who in turn had the pleasure in making items. By April the first signs of success became evident when members arrived at our branch meeting handing in their work. This generated encouragement amongst members who went away to busy themselves in workshops to produce even more items. And so it went on and on with boxes of work having to be stored. A 'Pricing Session' was held on a July afternoon. A good team worked well and hard completing the job by 6pm. The boxed items were then placed into a horse box lorry and stored therein for a few days before shipping to the gallery. (Fortunately the owner did not have to transport his horses during this time) Two days before the event we managed to have further radio and newspaper coverage. Superb timing. The day of opening arrived and we were ready in good time for the taking of money. Some paintings and furniture and carvings added to the room decoration. We got off to a most fantastic start with our first customer spending over £200 and



Senior members resting using the Millenium Mendlesham Chairs
John Branton Will Edmundson Basil Saunders



A few of the displayed woodturnings

the second over £100. We knew that we were on to a winner. During the first afternoon we had several local dignitaries attend a 'Early View'. This again provided further publicity. By the end of day one we had £2,100 to bank. What a start. In addition to all the daily activity we had a busy programme for members working shifts performing turning demonstrations. This programme was fulfilled each day during the whole week. Well done to those who took part. Our branch owned Poolewood Commander lathe had a busy week. On Sunday 7 Mark Baker, the editor Woodturning magazine, and Tony Witham were kind enough to give of their time and present demonstrations. Items turned were sold as they came off the lathe. Christine Witham demonstrated pyrography. Thank you, Mark, Tony and Christine for doing this. Also seen in the crowd was none other than Derek Phillips who claimed he was present to promote the good of the AWGB. Some of us knew better, he was only watching Mark and Tony to see how it really should be done. Nice to see you Derek. Each morning items were moved about to try to close the now appearing gaps. Would we run out of turnings? The money kept coming in. The weather had been good throughout the week. The complex was not always busy but we were kept busy with a steady flow of customers.

On the closing afternoon our Chairman thanked all those who had been involved in the success of the event. Dawn Banks on behalf of the hospice, thanked the branch members and helpers for such a magnificent effort. The lottery prizes were then drawn, 14 prizes in all (Woodturnings of course) The lottery raised £1,800. Michael Izzard then announced that the total money raised was £10,580.00

Needless to say that a round of applause took place.

All unsold items were boxed and handed over for the hospice to use to raise additional funds.

Yes, the event was a success. Measuring it in terms of money everyone is aware that it was a success. But we ought to consider how it became a success. For a number of reasons - a committee which worked hard, well supported by very willing members who made and donated so much work, stewards, including partners and demonstrators who almost self organised themselves, many willing helpers prior to the event, local radio and newspapers, local shops, hotels etc. which displayed adverts and promoted the cause. We must thank all those people who supported the event and purchased items.

One member demonstrator claimed he enjoyed his turning because he produced more items than if he had been in his own workshop. (He got away with domestic chores).

It was a **TEAM EFFORT**. We all have something to be proud of.

If any other branches are considering tackling a similar event I offer this free advice..... take a deep breath.....and **'GO FOR IT'**

*Geoff Moss.
(Secretary)*



*Albert Lane
(Chairman)*

*David Millington
(Treasurer)*

*Michael Izzard
(Hospice)*

*Geoff Moss
(Secretary)*

*Dawn Banks
(Hospice)*