

Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Issue No 52

£1.95 Free to members

February 2000



*Axminster
Show and
Prizewinners*

AGM Agenda



Chairmans Page

As I write these notes for "Revolutions", for the last time as Chairman, I think of the question that I am most often asked by members, particularly branch members.

The question is usually in the form of "What do I get out of the AWGB for my money?"

I have always tried to answer what I think underlies the question. That is an expectation that I will justify that the subscription to the AWGB is value for money. I can do that and list the many things that you get as a member such as four copies of "Revolutions" each year, access to the International seminar every two years, a growing number of companies prepared to give members discount on their goods and services, video hire and so on. I can also say genuinely that nationally the organisation places a heavy emphasis on spending wisely and carefully, hence the subscription has remained the same from well before I became a member in the early nineties.

Rather than repeat in detail all the "pound for pound" benefits, I shall say now what is often in the back of my mind when I answer the question.

For me the reason for joining the AWGB centres less on what it costs and more on the benefits of knowing and having the opportunity to meet other woodturners. That benefit alone has been priceless! The benefits of access to the experience, help and advice of others encouraged me in my early

experiences and sustains me now as I continuously try to improve and try new things. I have learnt so much from others in my branch and working with the members of the national executive committee that it is too great and varied to recount or even remember. I learn a little bit here and a little bit there and its not long before progress follows. When I look back I am often surprised at the progress I have made thanks to these benefits.

At branch level particularly, it is surprising how many contacts can be established with those who know where to get things cheaply, with those who seem to know how to repair anything, with those who have successfully done things that I want to try. I am now part of an "organic" network that has developed and grown spontaneously and which provides mutual support and help on demand. You've only got to ask!! I would argue strongly that you can't buy these benefits.

The AWGB provides the means for that to happen at both local and national level for those who wish to take advantage of it. On top of all this is the generosity I have experienced from other woodturners and this has come in all sorts of ways from a gift of an odd bit of timber to lifts to shows.

I appreciate that many, maybe even most AWGB members, are older rather than younger and that many are on fixed incomes where guaranteed value for money is very important. However if

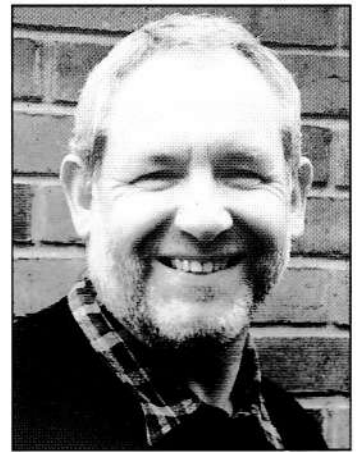
all the benefits that I have stated are available for the price of membership, it seems to me like an offer that is too good to be true or miss.

Having said all that there is still another issue in the back of my mind that I think is pertinent when answering the question of what you get for your subscription money?

Most will agree that for most things in life you get out what you put in and consequently the more you put in the more you get out! This is not an argument for higher subs!! It is intended to draw attention to an attitude of mind. If as a member you see the subscription as a profit and loss issue and the word "value" has a meaning that is solely numerical, many of the things I have mentioned will not appear in the reckoning. If however you see membership as an opportunity to access the benefits that I describe then the subscription is more akin to an investment that over the years will provide dividends way in excess of the cost each year.

To continue further with the idea that "the more you put in the more you get out", I think that from what I see from members it is those who get involved at some level who seem to get most satisfaction. Many of the benefits I mention are hard to measure in financial terms.

Involvement leads to satisfaction and brings its own reward although there are still frustrations on the way at times, for example when



seeking out volunteers, when seeking new officers each year etc. etc. Those who do most still seem to get most out of it all. So if you want your investment to grow get involved at a level that suits you. Volunteer willingly rather than waiting to be asked. Be proactive with any help you can offer rather than wait for fear of seeming "pushy".

Most branches I am sure would be delighted to have members prepared to take things on. You don't have to be an expert turner to help run the branch. I think that those members who are prepared to put more in, get more out and in my experience are not the members who measure the benefits of membership in financial terms alone.

I wish everyone well for 2000.

I thank all members and the executive committee members for their support during my term of office.

I look forward to seeing (and helping) the AWGB to continue in progressing from strength to strength.

Chris Lindup
January 2000

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 sewing on Smocks etc
£4.00 inc Post & Packing

**Copy deadline for the next edition of
Revolutions
15 April 2000**

Editorial

As I begin to write this my first Revolutions editorial I find my mind wandering to think about my predecessors and the acts that I have to follow. I am a relatively recently arrived member of the woodturning fraternity and it is with some trepidation that I set out on this journey. However I am encouraged by the knowledge that within the fraternity in general there is a willingness to share and to help...I know I shall be calling on this fund of goodwill as time goes by. I have one vote of thanks to make already, both on my own account and for the membership in general.

Mike Dennis my predecessor has been a tower of strength in helping me into his chair. He has been therewhen I needed assistance but at the same time has had the courage to leave me to have my head!

I acknowledge his help with thanks, any faults are mine.

Mike has probably been the only editor that many of us have known and he has been responsible for over half of the issues of Revolutions. In the past year he has not only acted as editor and vice-chairman but stepped into the breach when the position of Treasurer needed to be filled at short notice for a temporary but indeterminate period. Mike we thank you for your hard work and perseverance on our behalf.

I suspect that Mike may be wondering what to do with his time now having not only shed the Editors job to yours truly but the treasurers job as well. That position has now been filled by the co-option of Jim Garside, Chairman of the Herts & Beds branch, until the AGM in March. At that time Jim has agreed to offer himself for election to the post.

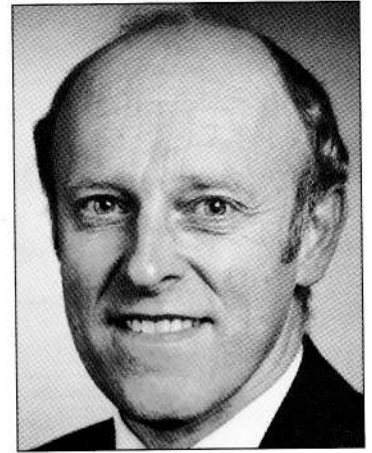
Elsewhere in this issue you will find a report of the Axminster show. It is now some two months since the event but it is still vividly impressed in my mind. The show continues to grow and gets better and better. There was so much of interest to see and so many skilled and well known turners on display to demonstrate their skills and to freely give of their experience and advice. It is a must go on my and many others calendars nowand rightly so.

Another major attraction of the show for me and I guess many others is the display of competition work. It provides a valuable and very instructive interlude away from the trade stands giving an opportunity to marvel at the quality of work on display and to set ones own future challenges.

Also included with this issue is a further membership renewal form. If you have not yet paid for this year please give this your immediate attention. If you belong to a branch please pay through your branch. Other members should forward their remittance to Derek Phillips, our membership secretary as soon as possible. No more reminders and, if your subscription remains unpaid, no more issues of Revolutions!

In the Editorial column of the last issue Mike expressed his disappointment that so little copy had been forthcoming from all quarters. I am disappointed to have to repeat those words in this my first column.

I find it disappointing that in a fraternity that I have always found vibrant and willing to share ideas there has been so little response. With one notable exception, whose first amusing contribution you can



read in this issue, little has been forthcoming. In fact I have even had to reluctantly suspend Tips for Turners for this issue. This I do find amazing. In my brief time as a woodturner I have received so many helpful words of encouragement that I find it difficult to believe the reticence presently on display!

Come on everyone. You may not feel up to writing an article or series of articles but how about penning a tip or two? The editors address may be found on the previous page.

There must also be some among you who capable of more. Where in a fraternity of our size are all the budding authors? We would all appreciate the sharing of your experience. It doesn't have to be instructional, tell us about your experiences. How did you get involved? What attracted you in the first place? What does the family or family pet think about those apparently unexplained long absences in the workshop, at the show or sawmill?

I will do my best to produce a newsletter which continues to inform, delight and amuse but I need your help. It is your newsletter and should provide a forum within which the affairs of the association are reported to the membership and one through which the membership can make its voice heard. Start shouting NOW!

John Wilson
January 2000

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

Held at the Burcot Village Hall, Alcester Road, Burcot,
Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.

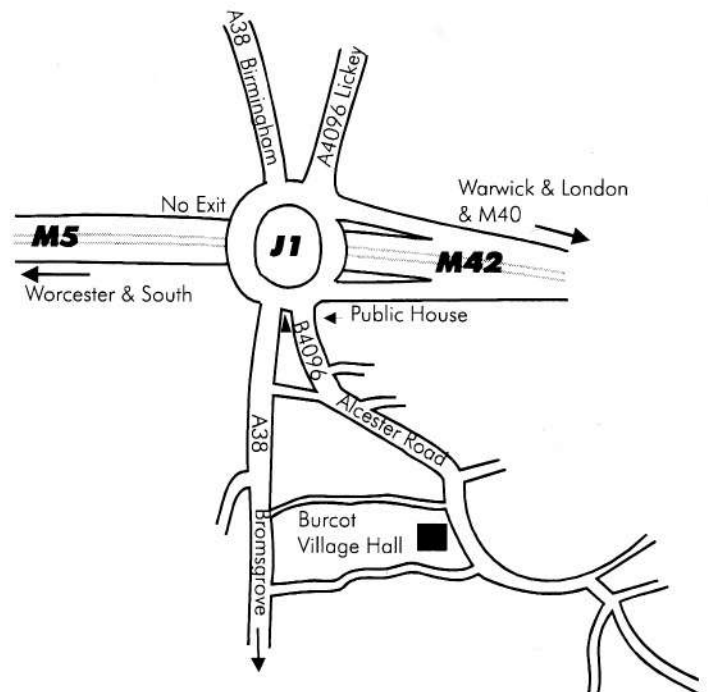
March 12th 2000

To start at 2.00pm prompt.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Pinner Village Hall, Pinner, Middlesex on Sunday March 21st 1999. The minutes were circulated in Issue No. 49 of *Revolutions*, May 1999.
3. Honorary Chairman's Report
4. Honorary Treasurer's Report and subscription recommendation for 2001.
5. Election of Officers
There will be no postal voting this year as there have been no changes to the Constitution put forward and only one person per executive post has been proposed. Members will be elected as follows :-
Chairman - Mike Dennis
Vice Chairman - Tony Witham
Treasurer - Jim Garside
Secretary - Lionel Pringle
6. Executive Committee Member
There being only one nomination
Reg Hawthorne is duly elected.
7. Branch Representatives to the Executive Committee.
Only two nominations were received and Brian Gregory, Herts & Beds, and Peter Brown, Thameside are duly elected.
8. Discussion.

NOTE Only fully paid up members of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting.



Axminster Tool & Machinery Exhibition

A report by Mike Dennis

Axminster Power Tools managed to provide an even better Exhibition than the hugely successful event of 1998. Thousands of people visited the exhibition over the four days and experienced a feast of traders giving of their best to be helpful and encouraging. As a woodturner you would have been able to sit down and watch up to 8 of this country's top turners demonstrating their skills at the lathe. On top of this there were numerous other woodturners demonstrating in their own right or on the various trade stands.

Over the years that I have been involved with various exhibitions up and down the country I can honestly say that this was the best. From the moment I walked into the venue on the set-up day there was a buzz about the place which lasted until breakdown on the Sunday evening.

Axminster Power Tools generously donated a 16 metre long stand by 2 metres deep for the Association's use. We divided this space up to give an Advice Clinic space of 5 metres and 11 metres for the display of member's work. You may remember that the exhibits were selected at the International Seminar last August and were displayed at the NEC and the Woodworkers World Exhibition in Watford. Axminster provided a M950 lathe for the clinic and as much shelving as we needed for the display of work. My role was to act as stand manager with Tony Witham, Derek Phillips and Simon Keen providing the demonstrations in the advice clinic. The Avon & Bristol Branch provided the stewards for each day for which I am extremely grateful.

Peter Garrison kindly offered to store the exhibits after the Watford exhibition and transport them to Shepton Mallet for this exhibition. He

also came back on the Sunday evening to collect the exhibits and take them on to the place where they would be stored until the Wembley Exhibition in February. Thanks Peter for all the effort that you put into this.

The exhibits from the Seminar were supplemented with additional work from members of the Avon & Bristol Branch, the demonstrators and myself. From the moment that we opened on the Thursday morning until the close on Sunday we were kept busy informing the public about the AWGB and answering their questions relating to the exhibits. The clinic was kept extremely busy, with what seemed like, a continual bombardment of queries and questions relating to woodturning.

Woodturning Competition

The competition held in conjunction with the show was one of the best I have seen. After the fiasco of last year's competition GMC did a good job organising this year's competition. The various classes were well defined and very well displayed with cards against each item indicating the maker's name and wood used. The quality of the work was generally pretty good but what impressed me most was the imagination that went into a lot of the pieces.

Prizewinners

Millennium Bowl

1st K Woodhead Berkshire
Leaf detail bowl

2nd J Heryet Bristol
Genetically modified bowl
3rd P Reeves Hampshire
Set of three stapled bowls
HC J Capper Cornwall
Scorched and gilded bowl

HC = Highly Commended

Turn a Natural-edge Burr

1st R Slater & M Pearce Cornwall
Burr poplar platter

2nd J Grimshaw Lancashire
Multi-centre turned wall plaque
3rd N Rickards Staffordshire
Australian burr bowl
HC S Granville Somerset
Aboyna burr

A pair of Salt & Pepper Mills

1st E Vage Cornwall
Indexed mills in various woods

2nd I Foden Buckinghamshire
Ebony & box
3rd C West Hampshire
Cocobolo & ash
HC J M Haigh North Yorks
Bubinga mills

Turn a Box

1st Ms P Nolan Devon
Scorched ash 'cow' box

2nd A Mc Veigh
Burr & ebony box
3rd E Vage Cornwall
Indexed box
HC R Haseldon East Sussex
Flying saucer box

Open Gallery Visitors Choice

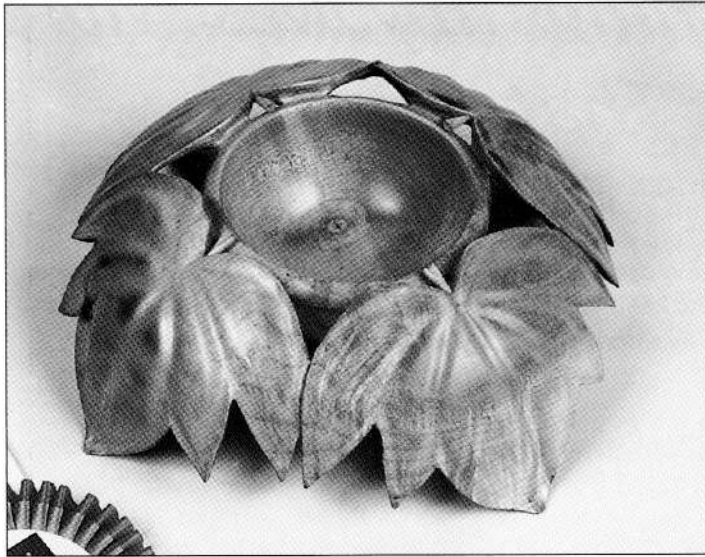
M Calder Devon
Coloured and sculptured hollow form

Judges Choice

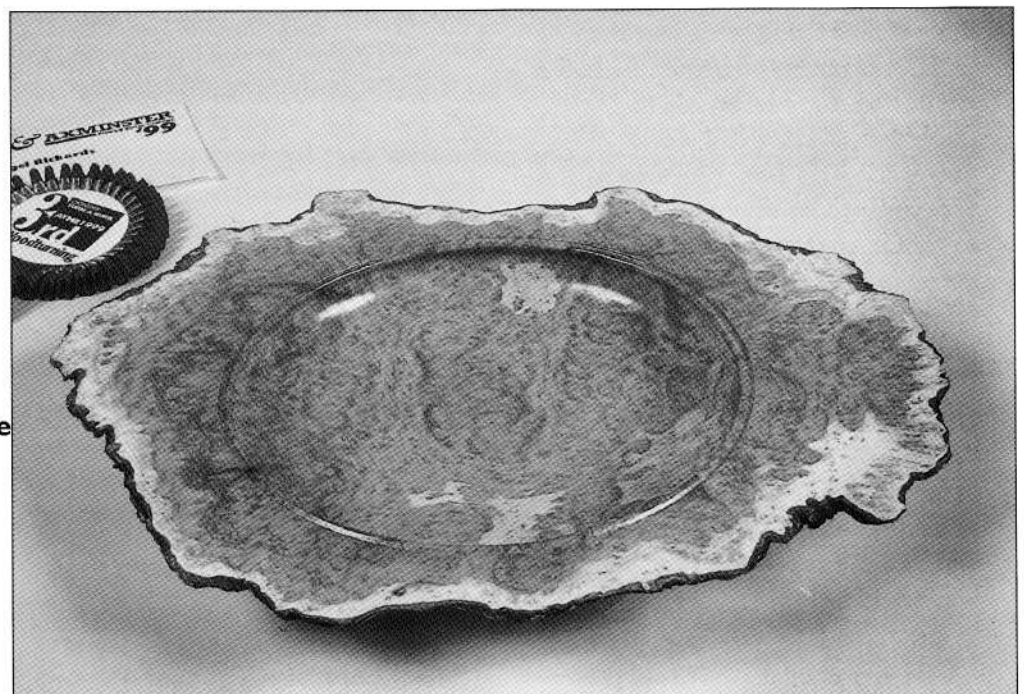
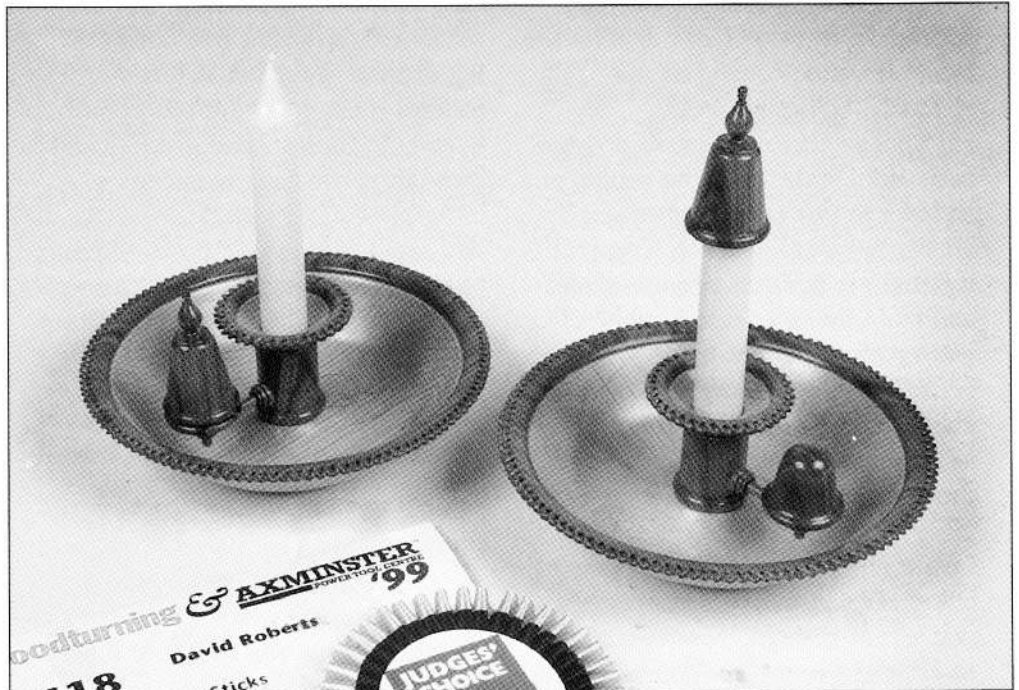
D Roberts Wiltshire
Pair of chamber sticks

Prize for Most Original Idea

J Grimshaw
Multi-centre turned wall plaque



Axminster Winners Gallery



Top : **K Woodhead**
1st Millenium Bowl

Above : **Ms P Nolan**
1st Turn a Box

Centre : **D Roberts - Judges Choice**
Pair of Chamber Sticks

Bottom : **N Rickards**
3rd Natural-edge Burr

Photographs courtesy of Woodturning
magazine

Selling Wood Turnings Involves More than That

By Bill Granville of Overseal (In the National Forest)

Believing in being absolutely straight and honest in all that I do, just like most other people. When I was lucky enough to sell some of my wood turning through the National Forest Visitor's Centre I thought that I had better clear this with Her Majesty's Inland Revenue.

Firstly I want to cheat no-one and secondly, not being rich I didn't want Inland Revenue coming on me suddenly for unpaid taxes.

H.M. Inspector of Taxes accordingly received a letter from me setting out at some length exactly what was going on. I explained that wood turning was a hobby, not a business and that now I had found a way of getting rid of surplus turnings. The prices that I was charging would cover materials but would not cover all other costs involved nor would there be any 'Profit' element.

I went on to say that having been in business I was aware that normally one would have to submit accounts and undertake the book-keeping that this required. However as I expected the annual income to be less than £1,500, probably less than £1,000 it did not appear reasonable to undertake all the extra work necessary. This even more so as the accounts would doubtless show a loss to be set against the tax I paid on my pension. In essence I was prepared to forego the tax refunds if they were prepared to do without accounts whilst the income from this hobby was less than £1500 per annum. This struck me as a reasonable compromise between sensible, honest human beings. However this was not the reply that I received. I was told.....

NO.....

.....you are self-employed and accordingly you must keep accounts and submit a self-assessment tax return next April.

I will send you one. Thus spoke the High and Mighty from the Ivory Tower

Alright, I've tried to reach a reasonable arrangement, but this is Big Brother and I like all lesser mortals must do as I'm told. I must keep bills, receipts and invoices and carefully record all my expenses.

ALL my expenses. Of course I must record.....**everything**.....

• Purchases of timber. Yes.

• Sandpaper and polish. Yes.

• Purchases of baize for the base of some pots. Of course.

• Travelling Expenses. Our car is in my wife's name and she does most of the mileage. If I use the car to take work to the shop or collect materials from elsewhere I put a mileage entry in and charge 30p per mile (Rather less than Civil Servants charge if they use their cars for work purposes.)

• Electricity I rely on this for heat, light and turning the lathes. I think that 15% of the electricity bills is very fair.

• Telephone Some of my calls are obviously in connection with the 'business' I will charge 10% of the bills coming to the house.

• What about the lathes, tower drill,

belt sander, band saw, grinders etc.? These are all items that I use every day in my 'business'.

I have valued each item a total of nearly £2,000. This is Capital Expenditure and I will have to claim a Capital Allowance of 15% of this per annum.

• Mind you maintenance and repairs of this equipment can be charged direct to the accounts for the year in which these costs were incurred.

I had to take my Coronet No 3 lathe to the Record Factory at Sheffield for repair. The repair cost £120 and it was a 190 mile round trip!

• Then of course there is Research and Development. All businesses need such a department to succeed, don't they? Does this cover me visiting shows and exhibitions?

In this Financial Year it looks as though my sales of timber will bring me cheques for round about £500. However it also looks as though my accounts will show expenditure in the region of £1,500.

This means that I will make a loss.

Instead of paying tax on my extra earnings this means that Inland Revenue will refund me about 1,000 twenty three pences or about £230.

I regard this as payment for playing at silly b***** and having to keep accounts for what remains a "Hobby" even though I am recompensed for some of the wood I dispose of.

Perhaps at one time a common sense solution would have been found. Now I suppose that's more than somebody's job's worth.

So you want to be a Woodturner

Part 4

By Chuck Turner

What do I need for sharpening my turning tools?

There is a great variety of grinders on the market, the most common are the two wheel machines. These are often equipped with different grades of grinding wheel, dependant on the ultimate use, but generally have medium and fine carborundum wheels. The kind most popular with woodturners has a medium carborundum wheel and a white aluminium oxide wheel which is said to be the best for sharpening High Speed Steel tools.

There are other slow turning grinders, which use water cooling, and can be used to sharpen and hone all kinds of tools, but these often require the purchase of several jigs for grinding different types of tool, this can be expensive. (one system has 13 different jigs, which may be bought, although they are not all used for sharpening turning tools).

From the point of view of a Woodturner, these are considerably slower than the two wheel ordinary grinders. However some Woodturners seem to get very good results with their use.

There are also what might be called combination machines which incorporate both a slow turning water cooled wheel and a faster Aluminium Oxide Wheel.

How important is sharpening?

Sharpening is one of the most important aspects of Woodturning which you will have to give a great deal of attention to, sooner or later.

Most People who have little experience of grinding tools, tend to press the tool against the stone too hard, and have difficulty in obtaining the correct angles required for the tool being ground. Remember always a light touch and try to use all the surface of the wheel. That is don't "dig" grooves in the surface of the wheel by grinding on the same place all the time.

Too much pressure results in over heating of the steel, and burning, which destroys the temper of the tool edge.

Carbon steel tools can be quenched in cold water, from time to time during grinding, but

High Speed Steel needs to be allowed to cool, otherwise the tool temper will be drawn.

After a while in use, the grinding wheels will need "dressing" to remove all the fine metal particles which have become bedded into the surface, so you will require the means of doing this.

Generally there three different methods of dressing a wheel, by use of a bar of hard carborundum called a "Devil" stone, or using another tool called a "Star Wheel", there is also a Diamond wheel dresser. The "Devil" stone is quite a good way of dressing the stone, and the Diamond wheel dresser is even better in my opinion. However I have not had much success with the "Star Wheel" which has always seemed a bit too rough for my liking, particularly on fine stones.

Are there any sharpening aids available?

Gouges are probably the most difficult of the Turning tools to sharpen on a Grinding wheel, so there are quite a lot of jigs on the market which make the job much easier and give consistent results.

Tools like the Skew chisel and parting and beading tools can be sharpened on bench India or Diamond stones, or if you have a disc sander with a table set at 90 degrees to the disc with 120 grit abrasive, good results can be achieved with a little practice,

Start to grind near the centre of the disc, (which is turning slower than the outer rim) then draw the tool slowly to the faster turning outer rim, when the correct angle has been achieved.

Prices at present for two wheel grinders, vary greatly from about £30.00 to over £100.00, in my opinion a medium priced machine should give good service, as it will probably have good quality bearings and wheels.

Do some research! Talk to other Turners, look through the suppliers catalogues or around their shops before buying the first thing that you see.

Slip stones can be of use to touch up the edge of gouges, chisels & scrapers without having to do an immediate re-grind.

Where should I site the Grinder?.

Preferably near to the lathe, you don't want to walk to the other side of the workshop every time you need to have a quick re-grind. Some very nice pedestal stands are available at the present time, which will probably be best fixed to the floor. Bear in mind that use of a grinder produces lots of fine metal filings, so keep the grinder away from any other equipment that has an open electric motor. My experience was that a small belt & Disc sander with an open motor was right in front of my Grinder and I believe metal filings were attracted by the Motors magnets which caused it to fail. Distribution of metal filings can be retarded by the inclusion of a strong magnet placed on the bench or stand in front of each grinding wheel, metal particles can be removed from time to time

Remember Grinders can be dangerous!

NEVER under any circumstances use an unguarded grinding wheel - some years ago a supplier of drill driven accessories sold a grinding and buffing attachment which included an unguarded grinding wheel, and following some cases of severe facial injuries this had to be withdrawn!

Be warned and take sensible precautions. Make sure your spark deflectors are properly adjusted and in place. Grinder tool rests should be about 1/16th from the edge of the wheel - firmly secured and adjusted regularly as the wheel wears.

Don't allow anything to fall against or knock the wheels, which could crack causing bits to fly off with disastrous results. It is best to use eye protection when using grinders. If a wheel needs changing get advice from your supplier, find out how to test a wheel for cracks, never leave off the cardboard washers each side of the wheel or over tighten the retaining nuts. In industry all persons changing grinder wheels have to have a special course.

Chippings and Shavings AWGB News Briefings

Millenium Turning Competition

Members will read elsewhere in this issue announcements of two turning competitions under the auspices of The Worshipful Company of Turners. You are reminded that it is still not too late to participate in the Millenium Turning Competition, details of which were published in Revolutions 49. Contact The Worshipful Company for entry forms and details.

New Treasurer

The search for a new treasurer to look after the financial affairs of the association is at an end. Jim Garside, Chairman of the Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire branch, was officially co-opted to fill the vacant post until the AGM at the December Executive Committee meeting. Continuity is however assured as Jim has also agreed to allow his name to go forward as a candidate for the position at the forthcoming AGM. In the absence of any other nominations we look forward to Jim occupying the post for at least the next association year.

Loan Lathes

The time has come for the annual review of the allocation of the association's collection of nine lathes. All Secretaries of branches with members who presently have one of these lathes are asked to check the following

- Is regular use is being made of the lathe?
- Is it required by the recipient for a further term?
or
- Do you have another member who would benefit from a loan period?
- Branch Secretaries aware of potential recipients should send a completed copy of the application form to be found in the Branch Handbook (p.43) to Tony Witham asap.

Applications are considered on their merits and therefore special attention should be given to completing the supporting statement requested on the form.

Web Site

The Association has appointed a new webmaster to take on the management of the AWGB website. It is felt that as the 21st century progresses this will become an increasingly important method of communication with members and other woodturners. It is therefore imperative that the information on the site accurately reflects the current AWGB affairs and information at all times.

The new man in charge is Brian Partridge and he is always open to information and suggestions from members. Brian can be contacted on 01473 828489 or email him at brianpart@aol.com.

The Committee wishes to put on record its thanks to Peter Hemsley for his hard work and dedication in the original construction of the AWGB site, its management all of which was achieved despite having much else on his plate.

Web Warning

Whilst on the subject of the Internet and web Tony Witham brings this warning to our attention.

Reports have reached him concerning the activities of the criminal element within society which should cause us all to reflect on security.

Tony writes

'certain low levels of humanity are making use of the Internet to target individuals who may have tools and equipment that has a good market value. In short they phone on a pretext to check if there is anybody home. If there is no reply they pop round and clean you out.'

Be warned! Do not publish your address on the internet, keep it down to just a general idea of locality and a phone number or email address. The AWGB and Brian Partridge will be taking steps to ensure that no members address will be published on the website.

Mike Dennis Email Address

Please note that Mike's email address has changed. He can now be reached at

mike.dennis@care4free.net

Revolutions Editor

The December Executive committee also saw the co-option of another new face. John Wilson who had been in discussion with Mike Dennis for some time was formally confirmed as the new editor. This issue marks his debut as editor.

John is a relative newcomer to the craft but is an enthusiastic and active woodturner who is looking forward to the challenge of the editors role. His background is in education and he is semi-retired from his position as a university lecturer in business information technology. His other interests have been in the sporting field, though his only active pursuit now is golf. As a young man sport also provided his first serious confrontations with timber. At that time he was an active orienteer and spent many hours happily losing himself in forests all over Great Britain and Scandinavia.

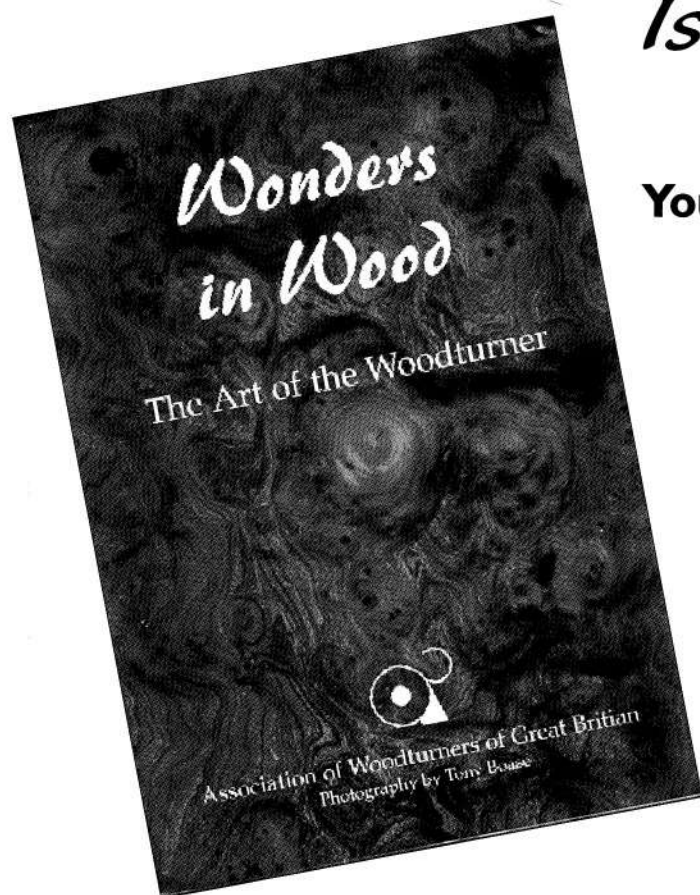
Expect John to reveal further ideas for the future development of Revolutions in future issues. He is eager promote a vibrant forum with contributions from all sections of the membership. If you feel you have a contribution to make or have a hobby horse that you want to ride please contact him NOW.....he will be extremely pleased to hear from you.

AWGB Subscriptions Final Reminder

**Members are reminded that
unpaid AWGB Subscriptions are
now overdue.**

**Please ensure that you have paid
yours either via your branch or
direct to the Membership
Secretary as appropriate.**

**Members in arrears will receive
no further reminders or future
editions of Revolutions.**



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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.

Affiliated Branches

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 Saunderson, 105 Abbotts Road, Cheam, Surrey SM3 9ST. 0181 644-6911

CHELMER VALLEY WOODTURNERS

Secretary: J Stock, Latneys, Witham, Essex. CM8 1EB 01376 520093

COLCHESTER WOODTURNERS

Secretary: Martin Edgeley, 26 St. Johns Close, Colchester, Essex, CO4 4HP 01206 843562

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/

FURNESS WOODTURNING & WOODCRAFTS ASSOCIATION

Secretary: John Taylor, 11 Rusland Drive, Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria. LA15 8UJ 01229 467030

HEART OF ENGLAND

Secretary: Reg Reed, 1 Churchfield, Welford on Avon, Warwickshire CV37 8ES 01789 750221

HERTS & BEDS

Secretary: Mike Sheaf, 51 Hart Hill Lane, Luton, Bedfordshire. LU2 0BA 01582 736382

KENT BRANCH

Secretary: Don Row, 45 West Hill Drive, Dartford, Kent. DA1 3DU 01322 270807

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URL Address: www.harrop.co.uk

MID STAFFS WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

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Secretary: Bernard Rose, 63 Belmore Road, ThorpeStAndrew, Norwich, Norfolk. NR7 0PR. 01603 36990

NORTH LONDON WOODTURNERS GROUP

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STAFFORDSHIRE & SOUTH CHESHIRE WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

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URL Address: <http://members.aol.com/brianpart/secbhome.html>

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TAYWOOD WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

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THAMESIDE WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

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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/

WEST NORTHANTS WOODTURNERS

Chairman: Ernie Potter, Copper Beech, Earls Barton Road, Mears Abbey, Northampton. NN6 0DR 01604 810434

WEST SUFFOLK WOODTURNING CLUB

Secretary: Bill Care, Stonham Barns, StonhamAspal, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 6AT 01449 711999 bill@bcare.co.uk

WORCESTERSHIRE WOODTURNERS

Secretary: Pam Norris, 'Rowan Trees', Uphampton, Ombersley, Nr Droitwich, Worcestershire, WR9 0JP 01905 620633

News from the Branches

New Branch

It is with pleasure that we are able to announce the formation of another new branch under the auspices of the AWGB.

The West Suffolk Woodturning Club has come into being through the efforts of Bill Care and adds yet another branch to a part of the country which may already claim to be one of the most active AWGB areas.

The club has in excess of 30 members already and enquiries regarding membership and its activities should be directed to Bill Care whose details appear in the Affiliated Branch listings.



Our branch year for 1999 commenced with our January AGM, which was attended by 48 members and 8 persons wishing to join. Officers and committee members were re-elected. The usual formal matters were dealt with before 'TURNABOUT' was discussed and members made their choices for the year. At the close it was obvious that our year long programme was going to be the provider of good meetings, demo days and the exchange of information/ideas etc. Before the end of January we were shocked to learn about the death of Rick **Davis**. Rick had been a very capable woodturner, a good branch member, gifted in **many ways** and had been an inspiration to many of us. At our February meeting, Brian Partridge came to see us and gave us a 'Bits and Pieces' demonstration. Well done Brian and thanks for your tips on the use of the spindle gouge. March was the first 'TURNABOUT' meeting and all who took part enjoyed their respective meetings. Another blow was dealt with the death of **Bryan Dove**. Bryan was not long into his retirement from his own joinery

business. Bryan had used his talents at our October 98 meeting demonstrating Springett techniques. For our April meeting we had our neighbour, Bill Care visit us showing us ideas and methods on wet wood turning. Bill provided us with a good meeting and he was the first visitor to use our branch owned POOLEWOOD 1000 Commander. Still in April, we had a day long demonstration presented by Phil Irons. This was attended by some 40 persons who witnessed the making of caddy spoons and a rattle for a baby. Phil related to us some amusing and moving stories about the use of finishing using liquid paraffin. During the afternoon session Phil did some hollow form and showed us his colouring methods. At the end of the day Phil kindly donated some of his work for us to sell at our Turning for Children event. Thank you Phil for this gesture and also for providing a first class day. May arrived and we had a day out visiting RECORD POWER LTD. Sheffield is quite a distance from Suffolk but 25 members elected to make the journey. A coach was hired and the first pick-up point was timed for 4.30am. this being a time of day many of us had long forgotten. Everyone was on time at respective points. One of our drivers, being in his early 70's~provided us with a very informative history and local tales as we progressed along our route. We arrived at 9.58am. two minutes early but exceptionally good timing. On arrival we were greeted by Craig Heffron who was to look after us for the day. Craig did very well and showed many interesting departments. To those branches thinking of making a visit to Record, stop thinking and visit - even if you have to get out of bed early. Another outing took place on a wet Saturday in June. Several of us paid a visit to a local (to us) saw mill run by Dick Murphy. Dick showed us his bandsaws, blade sharpening machines

and various local timbers. During the visit the sound of loud shrieking was heard in this very rural setting. Many of us thought that there was some sort of mechanical defect but Dick was quick to point out that all was well - it was his friendly visitor - a Peacock, perched on the fence. We lunched in Orford and then using a ferry we visited Orford Ness, a National Trust site. This had once been a research establishment during the war years. We visited preserved buildings and saw lots of documentation by way of log keeping and photographs etc. Yes we had yet another good outing. Our August meeting was held outside, it was one of the better summer evenings of the year. Our visitor was Andrew Moore, a tree surgeon and timber supplier. (This was his second visit) Andrew brought along his mobile saw on which he showed us cutting methods of various thicknesses down to about veneer thickness. As I have pointed out, it was a lovely evening, overhead a colourful hot air balloon and passengers drifted by. Then one of our members brought our attention to a strange astronomical phenomena - Sun Dogs/Sun Spots appeared, caused by sunlight refracting through hexagonal ice crystals touching 22 degrees of a halo. Whatever it was it all added to another good evening. Andrew lives in the Bury St. Edmunds area and he is well recommended to branches in East Anglia or easy reach. Soon we were into October and one of our own members, Pat Blake, demonstrated his own versions on wet wood turning. Pat prepared himself well with some of his own theories on wood cutting. Thanks Pat. Pat has won several national competitions and his work has featured in Revolutions and Woodturning. Thank you for sharing with us your own methods and ideas. Our second demonstration day took place in November when Jimmy Clewes came to see us. Again we

managed to attract 40 persons to see Jimmy. We saw a couple of turnings made to support some of Jimmy's ideas on curves and rounds etc. In the afternoon Jimmy turned one of his vases (as per the article in Woodturning Issue No.80) before making a square platter in about 15 minutes. Jimmy worked hard and his efforts were appreciated by all. Jimmy stayed overnight and about a dozen of us took him out for a meal and an enjoyable evening. On the Sunday eight students attended a workshop with Jimmy helping each as required. Skills were at various levels and Jimmy was able to provide us with tools, specialist tools to complete projects. This day once again proved to be very worthwhile. Thanks again Jimmy for your contribution in making the weekend an excellent event. And so into December and our last meeting of the century. It was fitting that this should involve multi-membership evening on Gadgets made and or purchased. As we closed our Chairman, Albert Lain, wished us well for the festive season and for the new year. Our meetings are always well attended and we average an attendance of 54 - 60 persons. Membership remains full at 70 with 10 persons awaiting membership.

In October, Bill Care, formed the West Suffolk Woodturners. To date he has about 33 members with a number of enquiries re membership pending. We wish the branch well. Within Suffolk we have three branches and three in neighbouring counties. In our region woodturning has certainly become a popular hobby and I am certain that this will continue to be so. To 'round off' our branch has had another good year, a great deal has been achieved. Once again I will make mention of our 'Turning for Children' event (as per the report in Revolutions Issue No.51) To raise the sum of £10,500 for the Ipswich Children's Hospice was a considerable effort. To Brian Partridge, Bill Care, Pat Blake, Phil Irons, Jimmy Clewes and those members who took part in our

meetings, Dick Murphy and Andrew Moore, those members who made TURNABOUT regular presentations, many thanks for your contributions. Our Chairman, Albert Lain, whose energy and enthusiasm never has a dull edge, our Treasurer, David Millington who has had an exceptionally busy year but still continues to produce spot on interim balance sheets and reports at our committee meetings. Thanks also to the branch committee for their continued support at our regular meetings and perhaps last of all to Andy Gallant a big thanks for the re-designing of the branch Newsletter which is distributed to members 5 or 6 times per year. Our branch membership should be thanked for supporting the branch and its activities/outings throughout the year. We all have another good year to look forward to commencing with our January AGM.

Chelmer Valley

Another year, or come to that another century, has passed and in the words of our Chairman, we have continued our steady progress. Full day demonstrations from Bert Marsh in March and Jimmy Clewes in December were well attended. Additionally, we had evening visits from Bill Jones, Dennis Knott and Bill Care to stimulate interest of both new members and the more seasoned and gnarled turners. At least 6 representatives attended the Warwick Seminar, whilst the Branch demonstrated at the Abridge Summer Show and the Essex Show during this past year.

At the recent A.G.M. it was decided to change our meeting night to the third Monday in every month, as from 21st February. Our venue continues at Moulsham Methodist Hall, Gloucester Road, Chelmsford at 7.30 pm. Additionally, there was a change of Secretary, as detailed on the Branch information page, since Jim Stock has found his work commitments too time-demanding.



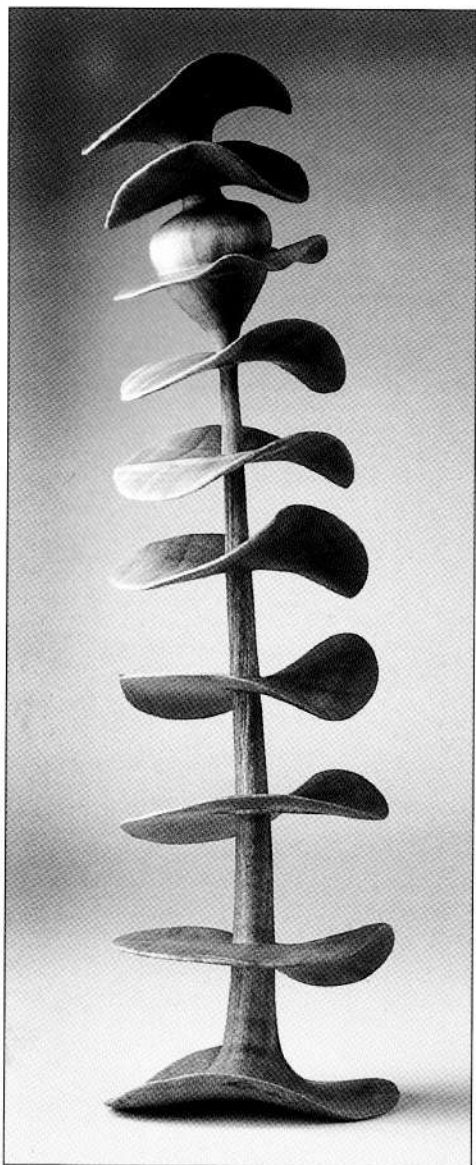
Norfolk Branch Charity Fund Raising Weekend For Macmillan Nurses

Following last year's successful weekend Norfolk Branch decided to hold another event this year and would be held 23rd / 24th October 1999. The disused farm shop at Costessey, which is sited on the main Road, was not available for the weekend but managed to hire the scout hut in Costessey. When arrived at the scout hut all of the exhibits were already set up on display there was a large selection of work from Light Pulls to Large Bowls and Platters Vases and Lamps of all Descriptions donated by there branch members.

There were also five lathes being used for demonstrations. These were manned all day by Sid Bear who was keeping everyone enthralled with his miniature turning of goblets with captive rings, Colin Huish production turning, David Fawkes demonstrating Bird Boxes, John Craske demonstrating Natural top Vases using a Mighty Midget and Nigel Wright demonstrating Natural top bowls.

The ladies were busy keeping the Teas & Coffees flowing along with the hot snacks. Although the attending public was low compared to last year a Total of £405 was raised over the weekend and has been presented to the Macmillan Nurses Charity. Well done the Norfolk Branch.

Tony Witham



Warwick 1999 Revisited
Further Selectors Choices

Above : Acacia Natural-edge bowl Nick Arnall

Left : Sea FlowerF4 Eucalyptus Gunni Melvyn Firmager

Below : Imbuya/Ebony/Box Boxes Ralph Pooley

