



Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Issue No 85

June 2008



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Editorial

News, articles, photographs and any other material intended for publication should be sent to the Newsletter Editor whose contact details are given below. If in doubt please check for format details first.

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First of all may I express my heartfelt thanks to you all of you who have contributed to this edition of Revolutions. My plea for contributions did not fall on deaf ears and as a result I think that the content of this issue is quite varied, and it includes a crossword for the first time. In actual fact the compiler of the crossword in this issue has already sent in a second offering, and I have another from a different source which is in a very serious league. I am keeping that on file for the December issue, I think it will help to keep the woodturning juices flowing, during a period when disappearing to the workshop is quite often frowned upon by the significant other half!

Although I still have some material which I can carry over to the September issue, I would not wish you all to become complacent, there is still room for more people to participate and pass on their thoughts. Don't forget an interesting article can be worth £50 a page to the author, one page will almost pay your subscription for four years.

After nine years of service on the AWGB Executive Committee, I am pleased to be able to say that I have at last jumped ship and no longer have any responsibilities for the day to day organisation of the Association. I will continue to edit Revolutions until such time as I, or the readers, decide that enough is enough and it is time to move on. In the meantime please remember that the purpose of this Newsletter is to represent the views of ALL the members not just the Executive Committee, and that your editor is an ordinary member of the AWGB and would like to see these pages used to debate issues which affect all of us. My report to the AGM is contained within these pages and I would hope that the contents of that may incite some discussion on the direction that this Association should be taking in the future.

Finally, those who read this newsletter closely will find within it mention of something which happened at the tail end of the AGM in April. I would just like to record my gratitude to all concerned for the honour that was bestowed; I am humbled to find myself in such exalted company.

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

Your personal details are held on a computer belonging to the AWGB. Your details are purely for the use of the Association and are not passed on to any third party. 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)

AWGB LAPEL BADGES (Brass & Enamel)

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Send Cheque etc, to Tony Walton (Address Opposite)

MAKE ALL PAYMENTS TO AWGB

Front Page

Walnut hollow form, turned from soaking wet wood in one session by Roger Groom.

Wall thickness is 3mm, and the dimensions are 125mm high by 100mm wide.

From the AWGB Forum Gallery.

Copy deadline for the next edition of Revolutions

July 18th 2008

Something to Ponder

from Andy Coates, PR Officer

Too Shy to Demonstrate?

Most woodturning clubs suffer from the same problems it seems. One problem that seems common is that of encouraging otherwise able turners to demonstrate their skills for the benefit of their fellow club members. We all know that turners are a helpful breed; ever ready to share knowledge and techniques, and help a novice turner overcome a tricky problem. But how much more helpful would it be to have them demonstrate these techniques on a club night?

Whilst most clubs like to have guest turners down to demonstrate, not all clubs can afford to do this on a monthly basis, and so having a few "home grown" experts to call upon can be a real financial boon. But the problem seems to be not a lack of experts, but a lack of experts who feel comfortable getting up in front of a crowd.

The AWGB are considering an initiative that is designed to address this problem, and your input will be invaluable

It is proposed that a course be designed to teach already proficient Woodturners the skills required to allow them to demonstrate effectively. We can't promise that you'll come out the other end as another Jimmy Clewes or Les Thorne (God forbid!), but do hope that you would feel better equipped to demonstrate in your own club without nerves getting in the way, and in a manner which imparts your hard-won expertise in a safe and logical sequence, and benefit your fellow club members.

If you feel that a short course of this nature would be of advantage to you, then please contact us. If you have comments or suggestions, we would also like to hear from you. Please mention the "Demonstrators Training Initiative" when you contact us. It's your AWGB. Use it! Make contact with any member of the Executive Committee, all their details are on page three of this issue of *Revolutions*.

Training Opportunities for Young Turners

Many of you will already be aware of the highly successful "Young Turners" days which the AWGB have been running for a couple of years at the workshops of Stuart Mortimer, and latterly also with Simon Hope. Whilst these days have proved highly popular, and thoroughly enjoyed by the YTs, we have been aware that there is a geographic advantage to those YTs living in the South. Well, we now have plans in motion to rectify this imbalance.

Four areas have been suggested as possible YT centres: North Norfolk, Kent, Avon & Bristol, and South Wales. Also, in a combined initiative with the NFWG it is hoped that venues in the North of the UK can also be set up in the future.

The Young Turners Initiative was developed to provide safe, secure, and expert tuition and guidance in woodturning technique and practice, in a supportive and encouraging environment, and is at the heart of the AWGB's Members' Development Programme.

It would be an enormous help if interested Young Turners, or their parents/guardians, could contact us to declare such interest at this early stage in the planning process. So, if you are a Young Turner in one of these areas, or know of one who might be interested, please contact the AWGB Youth Training Officer, Peter Bradwick, to declare your interest and obtain further information, his details are all on page three of this issue of *Revolutions*.

Communicating With Members

Over recent months the Executive Committee (EC) have been looking at ways to improve direct member communication. It is clear that historically used methods are either hit-and-miss, such as Branchlinks which do not reach members who are not also "club" members, and snail-mail, which is becoming increasingly costly, and, of course, *Revolutions*, which serves the purpose when there isn't a time issue to concern us.

After much deliberation it was decided that by far the best option was direct e-mail. To this end an e-mail shot went out to all Branch Secretaries, requesting that they poll their branch and forward all e-mail addresses of those who consented. The response so far has been disappointing.

To allay the apparent concerns of some members about the use of this data, a few points are worth making.

- The e-mail address database is held in an encrypted database. The encryption is as strong as that used by your bank.
- The database will NEVER be sold, leant, bartered, or given, to ANY other party, for any purpose whatsoever.
- The database will only be used to e-mail AWGB members on matters of importance when there is an immediacy dictated by the given circumstance.
- Having your personal e-mail address on the database will not result in an increase in SPAM
- Bulk e-mail messages to the membership will be initiated using the BCC (blind carbon copy) method, so that not even other members see your e-mail address.
- Effective and cost effective communication with members is one vital area where we can save money, and help to maintain the current subscription level.
- Your e-mail address will only become a part of the database if you explicitly consent. We will not harvest

e-mail addresses from other sources, such as routine e-mails coming in to us.

If you feel happy to be included in the database, and haven't already done so, please forward your e-mail address to me; Andy Coates. Branch Secretaries, who have not yet polled their clubs, please do so at the earliest possible event. If you have any further concerns, please contact me using any of the contact options available on page three of this issue of *Revolutions*.

Stop Press!

The AWGB are excited to announce a monthly online turnery competition. Entries will be via the AWGB website forum, and final details can be found in the "Competition Gallery". If you are not already a registered member of the forum, then now is the time to join! To register for a forum account, follow the FORUM link from www.woodturners.co.uk

Meantime Design has kindly sponsored the first three months, and full details will be available shortly on the web forum.

Chairman's Notes



Chris Eagles

Welcome to my "Chairman's Notes" ~ my first since being elected to the post at the April 2008 Annual General Meeting.

Some big hitters have now retired from Committee work to be replaced with an enthusiastic crew of lads (and this year, a lassie) who have volunteered their efforts towards improving the enjoyment we derive from our chosen craft.

For my part there will be no blazing guns or new brooms ... more a quiet reflection on the energetic work of my predecessors in areas such as youth training, general communication and the revamping of various items of Association literature. In addition, we are launching three completely new initiatives: a regular woodturning "Competition Gallery", to be organised under the banner of the AWGB Public Forum, which is a part of our website, a demonstrator's training programme, and a monthly column in "Woodturning" magazine.

The Association has recently attended two woodturning shows. Yandles, in Somerset, staged their Spring Show surrounded by the paraphernalia of a working timber yard, while Woodex 2008 was held at the Warwickshire Exhibition Centre. The events are very different. In the past the Association has, each year, supported three sizeable shows; however changing patterns and commercial requirements now see shows as smaller, more intimate happenings.

We need to flow with the tide and provide Association displays in keeping with the current trend. For 2008 we have the opportunity to appear at several small events where it is hoped to raise the profile of woodturning and at the same time enable us to fly the Association flag across a wider area of the country. Additionally, we will have a high profile display at the WCT competition and "Wizards in Wood" events this coming summer.

A major part of the Association stand is the display of members' work. Stewards are regularly complimented on the variety and quality of the display and take great pride in discussing the salient points of individual pieces ~ although on occasions they may struggle to explain just how some pieces are produced in the first place! Ah well, we all have our personal learning curves!!! Naturally, we take great care in maintaining the good condition of pieces with which we have been entrusted. Unfortunately Acts of God occasionally creep up on us and we need to attend to mishaps the best way we can.

We have approximately 60 pieces in this years "pool" and by attending an increased number of small shows we have the opportunity to vary the members' display. The rotation of pieces may be one way forward. If your valued piece is not displayed in Show 1, expect to see it included in Show 2, etc.

We are also experimenting with the physical size and style of our stand. Do we need a shell system or a fabric back-drop? Would dedicated spot-lighting, raising blocks or transparent stands improve the overall appearance of the display? All suggestions are in the melting pot ~ and this is where you can have direct input to the style of the Association show stand.

Officer and Committee member details are printed on page three of this issue of *Revolutions* and in your new 2008 Members' Handbook ~ why not put pen to paper (or pick up the phone) to let us know how you think we could improve the Association and its display stand.

- ❖ Chris lives and works in a small village on the Gloucestershire/Worcestershire border. He has a purpose built workshop attached to his home. His work is split three ways: one-off commissions, antique restoration turning, and tutoring both at an Arts and Crafts based workshop and one-to-one courses at his home.

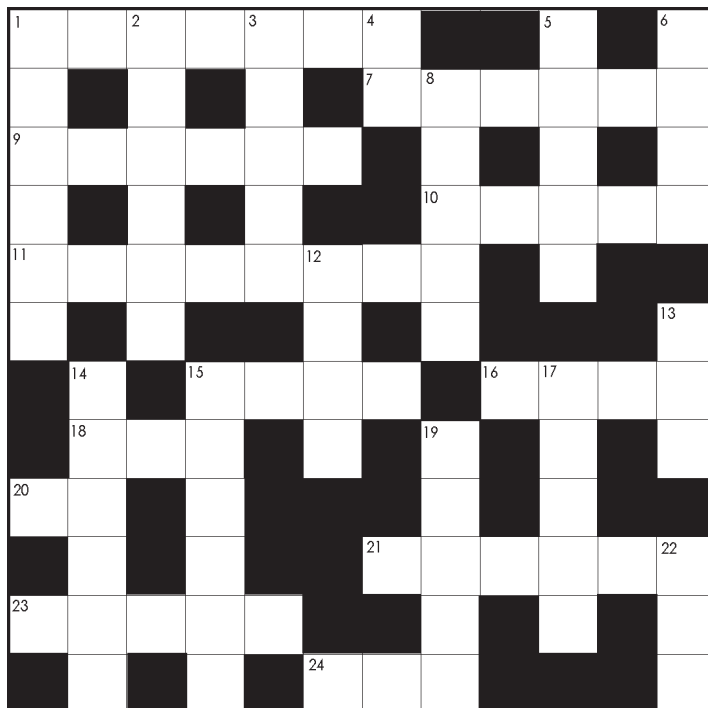
Wizardry in Wood

THE DEFINITIVE EXHIBITION OF
THE ART AND CRAFT OF TURNING



4 – 6 June 2008
Carpenters' Hall, London EC2

www.wizardryinwood.com



The Revolutions Crossword

Contributed by Eric Pearce

Across

- 1 (and 1 down) Aussie turner, 7
- 7 Osage, 6
- 9 Box topping, 6
- 10 Larix Decidua, 5
- 11 Used before polishing, 8
- 15 Type of chisel, 4
- 16 Good for carving, 4
- 18 Wet part of wood, 3
- 20 Exclamation, 2
- 21 AWGB president, 3 & 3
- 23 Betula, 5
- 24 Fraxinus, 3

Down

- 1 See 1 across, 6
- 2 Middle of disc, 6
- 3 Gather together, 5
- 4 Don't talk - ??, 2
- 5 Trap, 5
- 6 What gears do, 4
- 8 Useful for straight lines, 5
- 12 Holly, 4
- 13 Not me, 3
- 14 Iles for tools, 6
- 15 Picea, 6
- 17 Hard and splintery wood, 5
- 19 What tutors do, 5
- 22 Glad to finish? 3

The answers can be found on page 24



Wizardry in Wood

Presented by
The Worshipful Company of Turners

- Prize-winning turnery from the Company's Competitions
- New designs from the Register of Professional Turners
- Innovations by the Company's Bursary-winners
- Finest turning by the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain
- Virtuoso turning by the Society of Ornamental Turners
- International collectors' works of art from the Smouha Collection
- An eclectic selection from the Daniel Collection
- The St Petersburg Collection's tribute to Theo Fabergé



- University of Leuven's mystically ornamented Angel Lathe
- Antique & modern pieces from the Guild of Art Scholars, Dealers and Collectors
- Rare antique treen from Birmingham Museum's Pinto Collection
- Turning in wood, ivory, jet, metal, soapstone, amber
- Demonstrations on a pole lathe
- Turned musical instruments
- Presents, prizes and trophies for every celebration
- An amazing range of turned pieces to admire, to study and to buy



News from the Eastern Region

by Brian Partridge

The Eastern region is a busy area with 18 very active branches.

The Chestnuts branch in Hadleigh, Suffolk set up a display at a new commercial event run by Classic Tools, at Needham Market in March. As well as trade stands Mark Hancock and Bill Care were demonstrating. Although not as busy as we would have liked we still managed to recruit a number of new members and Classic Tools joined as a new corporate member. As well as showing off to the public, this type of event, enabled members of various local Branches to meet up and exchange ideas.

The biggest disappointment was the cancellation of the first youth training day this year. Although we had only one applicant it turned out that there were two other youngsters who would have liked to come but did not contact us until it was too late. The next youth day at the end of May already has four youngsters registered so we will expect to have a good day then.

The Fairlop branch continues to teach youngsters at the local school. Once the youth have a go at turning they appear to get quite interested. This bodes well for the future.

The Chelmer Valley branch had a superb evening demonstration from Les Thorne and members are already asking if they can have him back.

Tickets are going very fast for Turn East, which is being run by the Norfolk Branch, and we expect that this will be a great day out for the regions turners.



Health and safety advice - Don't wear a tie!

Turn East 2008

The 9th East of England Woodturning Seminar



Saturday 16th August 2008
Fakenham High School,
Fields Lane, Fakenham, Norfolk
9.30am until 4.45pm

Demonstrating will be
**Jean-Francois Escoulen, Phil Irons,
Stuart King and Joey Richardson**

There will be trade stands and an exhibition of members and delegates work. Spaces are limited, early application is advisable to participate in a first class event. Admission is by ticket only which will cost £25, this includes a buffet lunch.

An application form and more details from
Bernard Rose, 63 Belmore Road,
Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich, NR7 0PR.
Telephone: 01603 436990
e-mail: bandm.rose@tiscali.co.uk

**Turn East is a one day regional seminar
organised by the Norfolk Woodturners Society
on behalf of the AWGB**

Important Notice

Due to some unfortunate errors on both the editorial and distribution sides of Revolutions, some members have not renewed their subscriptions this year.

If you think you are a member but do not have a 2008 membership card, please contact Derek Phillips immediately.

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30 Sherrell Park
Bere Alston
Yelverton
Devon
PL20 7AZ**

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e-mail: derek.phillips@virgin.net**

A Rewarding Experience

by Bob Cooper

I have found, by chance, possibly one of the most rewarding and enjoyable things that you can do related to woodturning. If you should ever get the chance that was presented to me, take it and make the most of it. What am I rambling on about? Woodturning with teenagers, that's what.

In 2005, after thirty years as an AA patrolman, I was made redundant. I decided that I'd done enough of shift work and that I would like a change from motor vehicles. A twenty-five year long interest in woodturning would play a part, but I realised that in order to earn a living solely from turning, you need to be extremely good, very efficient and lucky in order to make it from a "standing start". As I also enjoy gardening and DIY I set myself up as a Woodturner, Handyman and Gardener, (I also build model boats and ships in bottles to order).

To boost the turning aspect of my livelihood I do talks and demonstrations to various groups. I also do craft fairs, usually taking a lathe and turning on site. What a way to enjoy a summer's day - turning outside, talking to people with an interest in wood and selling items you've made - best of all, I actually manage to end the year making a profit.

Last year I was asked to go into a local secondary school and help the Year Tens produce something on a lathe (my lathe!) It took a while to get some enthusiasm going - them - not me! But it was worth it, it was an enjoyable way of earning money and some interesting items were produced.

I was subsequently asked to work with an after-school art group of mixed ages, (this one I would have done for nothing, but don't tell the school I said that). Because it was after school everyone was there because they wanted to be - so no problems with enthusiasm or ideas - it just meant adding a couple of extra weeks to those already planned. I would have been quite happy to have some of the finished items on my stall at a craft fair.

Recently I was asked back to the school to work with the new intake of Year Tens. These guys were a lot more enthusiastic from the word go, they had some interesting ideas, and the written work they produced was really good. Once again a few more additional days were added to the original plan.

One girl chose to work with a piece of Eucalyptus. I explained about the voids this timber would probably contain, but she was not put off and a vase was produced with the voids filled with resin and 'In-Lace' crystals.

The head of art and the rest of the art teachers really put themselves out to make this course work and were

a real pleasure to work with. The majority of the 'kids' wanted to take their work home, this was a first as pupils don't normally take things home, a camera was produced in order to record the items before they disappeared.

Recently my youngest child Heather (17½), who is an enthusiastic turner, had some friends round, one of them needed a present for her Mum, and so out to the workshop they went. For the first time in her life she 'helped' make something - and enjoyed doing it - even better her Mum loved it.

These days I seem to quite often end up with a teenager in the workshop (either one of mine, or someone else's). I have also noticed quite often at craft fairs that I get a group of teenagers who want to talk about turning - wood - woodwork. If you take the time to listen and discuss things you realise there's a lot of interest out there. So why is it that today's 'kids' don't get the chances we did?

The Legal Aspect of Bob's Experience by Tony Witham

I get the same buzz as Bob Cooper from knowing that you are passing on your skills to the next generation. However there are a few things to bear in mind in these days of concern for Child Protection and with Health and Safety.

I would take all precautions possible and the AWGB has some great guidelines on these issues, which are available from Peter Bradwick, our H & S man, without going over the top.

Firstly is the Health and Safety aspect of teaching youngsters to use a woodturning lathe. For members of Affiliated and Associated Branches there is some information to be found in the Branch Handbook and some more information that can be obtained from Peter Bradwick. Whenever I am teaching I give every student a copy of the safety guidelines.

Also to be found in the Branch Handbook is a section containing guidelines for the Child Protection Policy. I would always sign the certificate stating that I have read and understood the policy document.

Also do not forget to carry out a risk assessment; guidelines for this are also available. If you are tutoring at a school it is worth checking that they are carrying this out especially if you are supplying the lathe.

Do not forget to check that your insurance covers you for teaching young people.

If you are not a member of a branch, all of these guidelines and relevant forms are available from David Buskell, the AWGB Secretary.

Report from the AWGB AGM 2008

By Andy Coates

The AWGB AGM 2008 was kindly hosted this year by the Tudor Rose Woodturners, at their venue in Daventry. From the very second we arrived, everything was in good order, and nothing seemed too much trouble for them. We were kept supplied with everything from tea and coffee, to extension leads for unexpected laptops!

A last minute call for pieces for an Instant Gallery resulted in a few pieces for a table. A few more would have been nice, but at least those that were brought along were enough to keep the opinions flowing for a while.

The Branch Reps meeting, which precedes the AGM, was attended by the usual stalwarts of the Association's branches, with attendees from as far afield as Portsmouth. Discussions were as lively as ever, with a number of potentially useful ideas coming from the floor – one of which has already been implemented, and news of it will follow shortly.

A superb buffet lunch was provided by Tudor Rose...how many AGMs can boast caviar on the menu?!...and everybody was kept fed and watered by our attentive hosts.

Unusual for the AGM, was the presence of Nigel Fleckney from Geddington Sawmill, who brought along a fantastic selection of kiln-dried wood for us to lust over and purchase, and if the overburdened bodies waddling back to their cars weighted down with boards of burr walnut and chestnut was anything to go by, then Nigel may well be back next year.

The AGM went ahead without a hiccup. With the routine matters attended to, the members were introduced to two new Executive Committee members: Julie Heryet – Regional Representative for the West, and Peter Bradwick – H&S and Youth Training Officer. The big event of the day was the retirement, after twenty years service, of Chairman Lionel Pringle. Lionel was awarded Life Membership of the AWGB, and presented with a commemorative plaque to mark the occasion by incoming Chairman, Chris Eagles. Lionel received a warm ovation from the floor, and will be missed by all those he's never shouted at! (Lionel couldn't completely sever his bond to the Association though, and remains as Editor of Revolutions, and can be contacted in the usual ways.)

An Executive Committee meeting (ECM) followed the AGM, at which another surprise was sprung on the Committee...but more of that in a later missive!

All in all it was a very constructive day, and the Association extends its thanks to all the willing helpers from Tudor Rose Woodturners for making the day run so smoothly and looking after everybody so well, and to all the branch representatives who attended.

AWGB AGM Minutes, 2008

Daventry Community Centre, Ashby Road, Daventry.

Sunday 6th April 2008, at 2.00pm

In attendance: 31 members

1 Apologies for absence had been received from Ray Key, David Grainger, Derek Phillips, Jack Townhill, Graham Lovett, David Blanden, Reg Hawthorne and Mike Morley.

2 The minutes of the AGM held at Great Kingshill Village Hall, on Sunday 1st April 2007 were accepted by the meeting as being a true record, proposed by John Montgomery and seconded by Peter Martin.

3 Lionel Pringle, Honorary Chairman of the Association presented his annual report to the meeting and a copy of this is attached to these minutes.

4 The Honorary Treasurer, Adrian Needham, presented the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2007 to the meeting, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. He gave a brief resume of methods of accounting used to arrive at the figures and an overall picture of the state of the Association's finances. Peter Martin proposed acceptance of the accounts and John Montgomery seconded, which were accepted unanimously.

The Honorary Treasurer asked that the meeting give authority to the Executive Committee so they can, if thought necessary, raise the subscriptions. At present the subscriptions for 2009 remain unchanged but the Treasurer requested a 5% increase proviso, should it be needed. This was unanimously approved.

5 As only one nomination per executive post had been received the following were duly elected:-

Chairman - Chris Eagles
Vice Chairman - no nomination
Treasurer - Adrian Needham
Secretary - David Buskell

6 As only one nomination had been received for post of Executive Committee member, Peter Bradwick was duly elected.

7 Only one nomination per post had been received for the vacant Regional Representatives posts. Consequently Brian Partridge was elected to serve for the Eastern region, and Julie Heryet for the Western region.

8 One item of any other business had been received. Which was the following resolution proposed by the Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee recommends that the policies and procedures that are currently in place regarding membership & subscriptions continue until AGM 2009.

This was unanimously agreed.

9 Chris Eagles introduced the members of the Executive Committee and then presented Lionel Pringle with Life Membership of the Association in recognition of a long and distinguished service in many posts.

10 Peter Martin proposed a vote of thanks to the committee for their hard work on the Association's behalf.

11 Lionel Pringle closed the meeting at 2.45pm with thanks to the members of the Tudor Rose branch for their help with the setting up of the venue and the provision of catering facilities.

AWGB Chairman's report, AGM 2008

I joined this Association in 1988 and was elected to the Executive Committee as secretary in 1999. I served in that capacity until 2006, when I expressed the desire to stand down from the committee. Obstacles were placed in the way of my desires and I agreed to stay on as newsletter editor, a job that incidentally I shall continue to do for as long as I feel that I have something to offer. In 2007 my arm was really severely twisted and I reluctantly agreed to serve for one year as chairman in a caretaker capacity whilst my replacement found his feet.

My chairmanship during the last year has, I am pleased to say, been more titular than practical. I must therefore express my thanks to Chris Eagles, our vice-chairman, for taking on much of the day-to-day work of the chairman; his has been a real baptism of fire. Before I finally shuffle off this burden, and remove myself from the business of the management of the AWGB, I would like to throw a pebble or two into the pond and leave it to other, and hopefully fresher, heads to navigate the ripples, if there are any!

2007 was in many respects a very successful year for the AWGB. We had a presence at more shows across the country than we have had in the past, we organised some very successful youth training events and the bi-annual International Seminar at Loughborough was far and away the best, and most widely appreciated, that we have ever organised.

However, from my own personal point of view, and I speak as a purely individual member who does not belong to a club with any ties to the Association, it would seem that despite all this success there is an underlying element of loss of direction and a certain

lack of purpose amongst the membership, from the crown to the roots (to use a woody analogy).

One of the aims in setting up the Association in 1987 was to try and persuade woodturners out of their workshops and sheds, to encourage them to communicate with one another, share ideas and techniques and champion the craft to others as a worthwhile hobby or a career. Manifestly these aims have been achieved; there are more people now, of both sexes, involved in, and deriving pleasure and income from woodturning than there were before the AWGB's inception.

Innumerable clubs and associations have been formed during the last 20 years, and whether or not they have an affiliation to, or an association with, the AWGB, there is no doubt in my mind that they would never have existed had the AWGB and its ideals not been formulated.

Having achieved one of the most significant of our original goals it seems to me that there has to be agreement about what the role of the AWGB is to be in the future. Are we to remain an organisation of individuals? This is constitutionally what we are and what we have always been, and what I think we should remain. Or do we transmute into an umbrella organisation for a collection of local clubs and associations?

At the moment we seem to be in no-man's land, where there is a considerable lack of interest amongst some of the membership in the Association and what it stands for. This is crystallised by the difficulties that clubs and the central committee have in finding enthusiastic people to take on administrative roles. My own personal opinion is that whilst there is a general malaise of apathy, which afflicts this country in all matters social, this is not the only reason.

Over the years various clubs have joined our ranks as affiliated branches, which is a good thing in itself, but what it also means is that, because of the 100% rule, the number of individual members of the AWGB has increased by default. I think that we have a number of members, who are only members of the AWGB because their club is affiliated; under normal circumstances they would possibly never have joined our ranks.

Branches, clubs, associations, however you term them, offer something to their members at a local level, which is all that a lot of people want. The AWGB offers a whole lot more. Our Members' Development Programme, the International Seminar, our Website and AWGB Forum to name but four. However, experience shows that these only appear to interest the hard core of really enthusiastic people for whom woodturning is a real way of life, whether as a hobby or a livelihood.

The principal question that needs to be answered now is what the Association can do to encourage those

members who would seem to be disenfranchising themselves, to become more active participants and beneficiaries of the Association of which they are a part.

As I have said the AWGB is not lacking in the kinds of services that are on offer to members, many retailers offer discounts to AWGB members and the Member's Development Programme is intended to support all members, whatever their level of expertise, enthusiasm is the principal criterion for participation.

None of this is a secret, everything that is on offer to the membership is detailed in our various handbooks, particularly the Member's Handbook which is circulated to all members; all that is needed, is for them to be read.

The pages of Revolutions and particularly the AWGB Forum on our website are ideal platforms to debate these matters and I encourage all members who have an opinion to express it. The future of this admirable Association is in your hands.

Lionel Pringle
Chairman

AWGB Treasurer's report, AGM '08

Notes and Statement of Accounting Procedures

Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention

Fixed Assets

Values for fixed assets owned and purchased by the association are presented under four categories:

1. Computers and software
2. Exhibition and display equipment
3. Lathes and tools
4. Videos and slides.

Values shown are current book values derived from historical cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation rates used are 25% per annum of original cost for computers and software and 15% for all other items. In 2007 the Association benefited from a DVD / TV (donated by David Buskell). Purchases were display cabinets for exhibitions, a guillotine and a screw chuck.

Membership Subscriptions

Membership subscriptions are those relevant to year 2007 membership.

Bank Charges

In the course of this year the influx of funds associated with the Seminar Delegate payments doubled the bank account traffic compared to a non seminar year. As a result, within the terms of our business banking conditions, the bank elected to invoke charges on the account. These are reflected in the accounts but as

they were only charged for part of the year they are not to be viewed as typical for a year's trading. This is a topic I will review in the hope of achieving a better deal with Lloyds or perhaps a change of bank.

Bank Interest

Interest from the Association's deposit account is an integral part of the Association's operations. With the change of charging regime mentioned above, interest has also been paid on the current account credit balance.

Corporation Tax

In previous years the AWGB liability for Corporation Tax was very small and essentially zero rated. From April 2007 that regime changed and we are now obliged to pay Corporation Tax on all interest received. The rate is essentially the same as the tax due on the interest such that the benefit normally associated with the refund of tax is negated.

Accruals

There are no payments outstanding for the year ending 31/12/2007.

Stock

The only stock items held are items of small value and it is our policy to write off the value on purchase. Stock purchases in the year were modest and are accounted for in the expenditure figures.

Prepayments

Prepayments comprise the purchase of membership cards for 2008 and the storage of equipment for the period to August 2008.

Seminar 2007

All Seminar 2007 trading is complete and the figures are shown on the Balance Sheet. The modest surplus arises because of savings made in the provision of AV facilities and a late influx of delegates taking us past the 180 budget break even figure.

Trade Creditors

Trade creditors comprise an Accountant's fee of £150.

Charitable Donations

No donations were made during the year

Development Fund.

The Development Fund benefited from £4894 from the Seminar Auction and the kind donation of his Seminar One Spot Demonstrator fee from Ambrose O'Halloran. The Fund supported a number of development courses for Association members, Youth Events and the promotion of woodturning at a Scout Jamboree.

Financial Out-turn

The outturn shows a modest surplus for the year. Some of the individual lines in the accounts show some major variations set against last year: these are mainly in the costs for travel, EC meetings and the AGM. In the accounts this year mileage and general travel costs have been set against the single line 'Travel' rather than against the separate activities. However, it is also true that the EC in meeting its various responsibilities has incurred greater travel cost. I will review the method of posting travel costs with a view to ensuring that costs are apportioned by activity.

Adrian J Needham
Hon. Treasurer AWGB

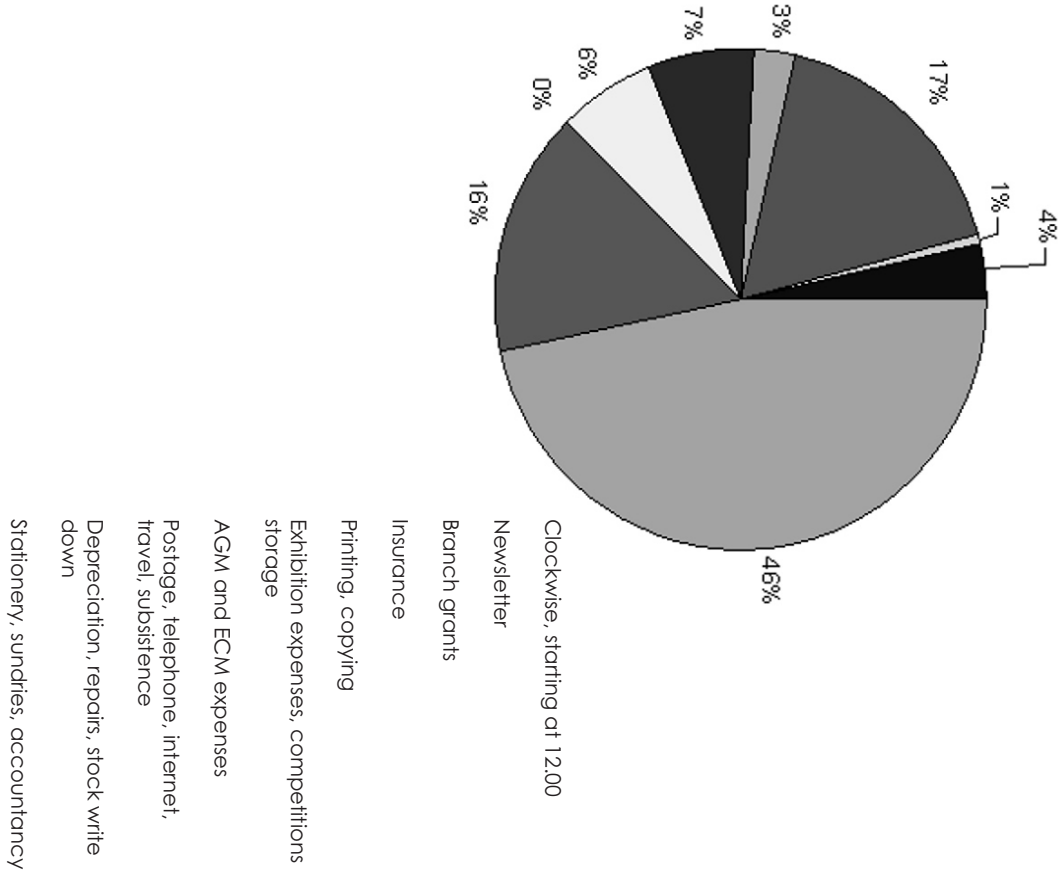
ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

FIXED ASSETS				
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2007				
	Slide & video	Lothes	Exhibition & Display	Computer & Software
Net Book Value End December 2006	12.40	197.26	1 468.45	246.82
Purchases 2007	0.00	26.60	293.73	80.00
Depreciation 2007	9.40	31.11	215.21	129.05
Book Value at end 2007	3.00	166.15	1253.24	117.77

DEVELOPMENT AND SEMINAR
ACTIVITIES AND BALANCES AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2007

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES	2007	2006
Income		
Income Auction	4894.00	0.00
Other	160.00	
Expenses	5054.00	
Courses	805.00	1 568.90
Youth Events	720.40	537.00
Funding for Seminar Scholarships	1 402.50	0.00
Total Expenses	2927.90	2105.90
NET INCOME/ EXPENDITURE	2126.10	-2105.90
SEMINAR ACCOUNT		
Income		
Delegate Fees	60178.90	
Trade Stands and accommodation	3547.01	
Seminar Raffle	1642.00	
Other Income	132.15	
Expenditure	65500.06	0.00
University Accommodation and Medis Facilities	40624.55	
Presenter Costs	6177.70	1000.00
Stationery and Printing	11200.90	
Travel and Other Expenses	646.91	198.00
	5120.24	474.18
Total Expenses	63770.30	1672.18
NET OVERSPEND/SURPLUS	1729.76	-1672.18

ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
BREAKDOWN OF SPEND 2007



ASSOCIATION OF WODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

	2007	2006
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Computers and Software	117.77	246.82
Exhibition and Display	1253.24	1468.45
Lathes and Tools	166.15	197.26
Videos and Slides	3.01	12.40
Net Book Value	1540.17	1924.93
CURRENT ASSETS		
Loan	200.00	0.00
Prepayments	1374.40	8829.66
AWGB Premier Account	38068.53	34604.18
AWGB Current Account	7856.99	3472.23
	47499.92	46906.07
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors	150.00	246.00
Membership Subscriptions in Advance	6616.50	6727.50
Associated memberships in Advance	75.00	240.00
Seminar payments for 2007	0.00	5612.50
Insurance from Branches	0.00	0.00
	6841.50	12826.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS	40658.42	34080.07
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	42198.59	36005.00
REPRESENTED BY:		
Accumulated Funds B/fwd	26443.63	23435.32
Net deficit/surplus for the Period	2337.73	3008.31
	28781.36	26443.63
AWGB Development Fund B/fwd	4189.27	6295.17
Activity	2126.10	-2105.90
	6315.37	4189.27
AWGB Seminar Account B/fwd	5372.10	7044.28
Net Profit/Overpend	1729.76	-1672.18
	7101.86	5372.10
	42198.59	36004.98

ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST December 2007

	2007	2006
	£	£
INCOME		
Membership Subscriptions	39484.00	40164.28
Assoc. Memberships	330.00	300.00
Revolutions Advertising	4933.35	1665.60
Video Hire	0.00	0.00
Sales of Merchandise :Profit	597.92	1075.33
Commission on Sales	506.48	3.50
Interest Premier Deposit	1464.35	1036.28
Interest Current Account	156.29	0.00
Corporation Tax	43.56	
	47515.95	44244.99
EXPENDITURE		
Branch Grants	6350.00	5770.00
Exhibition Expenses	2645.08	2356.00
Newsletter	18872.32	17686.66
Internet Costs	133.42	186.63
Travelling	3579.95	428.50
Subsistence	919.00	0.00
Postage	1010.85	744.20
Telephone	80.80	122.73
Executive Meeting Expenses	1113.92	1325.55
AGM Expenses	371.00	1056.45
Stationery	389.67	352.35
Printing, Copying	2609.28	2672.19
Equipment Storage	918.24	891.63
Sundries	872.73	0.00
Accountancy Fee	150.00	185.00
Insurance	4753.05	4718.50
Competitions	0.00	850.00
Branch presentations	0.00	0.00
Stock Writedown	0.00	794.56
Donation	-61.00	0.00
Bank Charges	85.14	15.00
Depreciation	384.77	1080.73
	45178.22	41236.68
NET PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	2337.73	3008.31

My New Tealights

by Hanspeter Bodner

Got some branch wood in your lean-to? Want some practice with your Roughing Gouge? Or do you want to try out the planing cut with the skew? Or do you simply want a new idea for a nice birthday present? Well, then this just might be what you're looking for, an ideal project for beginners and possibly others too.

The glass inserts used in this project are available from Ikea and are intended for use in food warmers, Marks & Spencer also sell a similar product at 50p each.

Begin by cutting a ring off any piece of scrap wood, with an inner diameter of 60mm, which you can then slip onto the centre of your tailstock, photos 1 and 2. This Template Ring will help you to get a uniform diameter on the four cylinders you are going to turn.

Now put your first branch between centres and transform it into a classic cylinder with your roughing out gouge and - if you dare - and if you wish to reduce your sanding to a minimum, 'plane-cut' it with the skew.

Whilst proceeding, keep checking progressively for a consistent diameter with the help of your Template Ring, photos 3 and 4. Repair any faults or cracks with superglue and sawdust, leaving the repair well proud of the surface for subsequent sanding down

When sanding, give it a severe spot of Elbow Grease along the grain before going on to the next higher grit. Raise the grain with water or sanding sealer, between Grits 120 and 180

Cut all four cylinders to the same length; in this case 240mm, then give them one thin coat of sanding sealer. Thin, in this case, means 40% sealer and 60% thinners.

Now give each of your four cylinders a flat strip on the belt sander, approximately 20mm wide, photos 5 and 6.

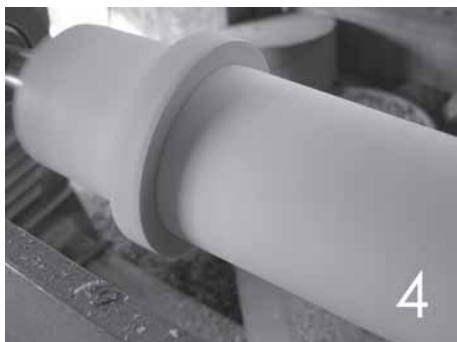
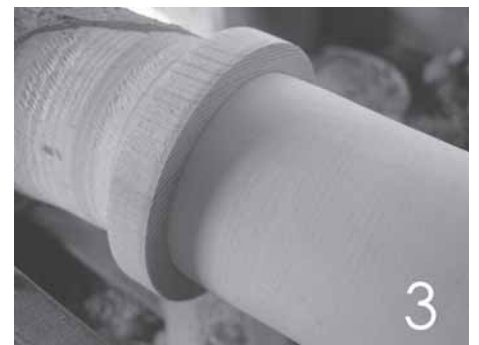
Glue them together in pairs, taking care not to damage their surfaces when clamping, photo 7. Then give each pair a 20mm flat strip on the Belt Sander, photo 8. Now glue the two pairs together.

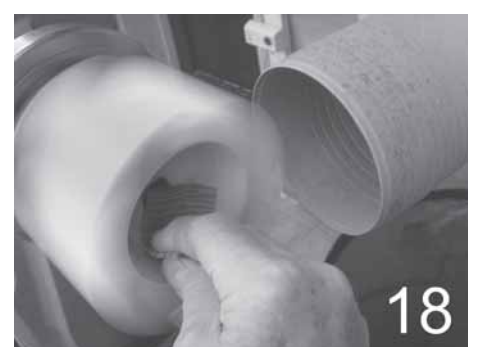
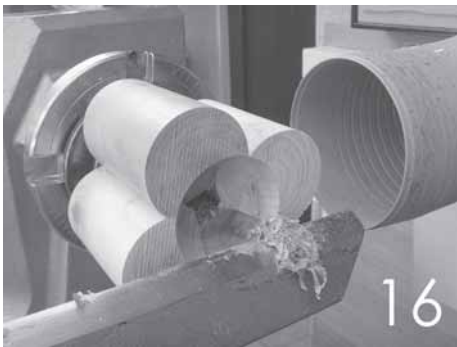
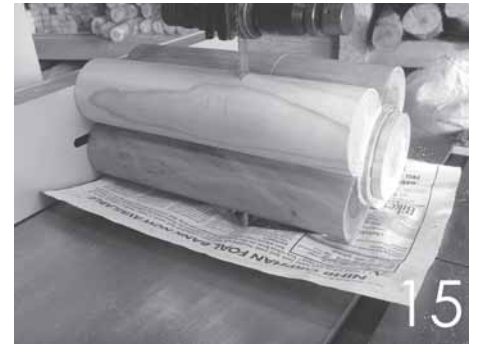
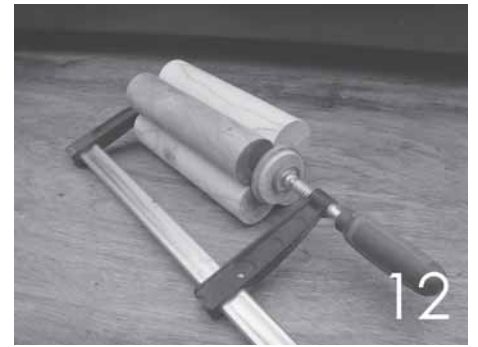
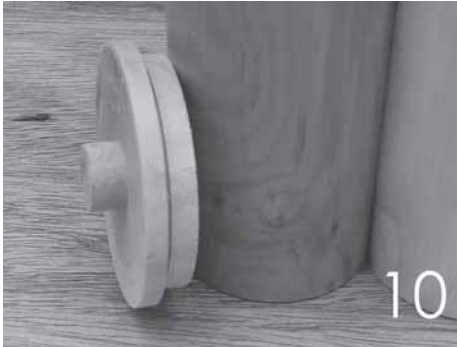
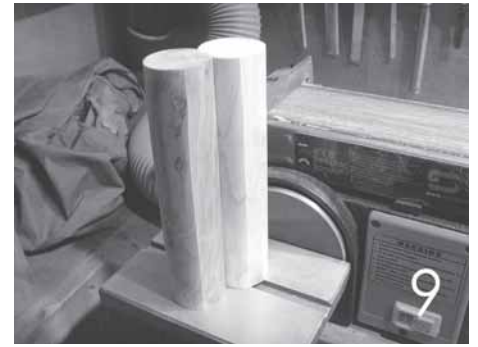
From a piece of scrap wood turn two spigots. For easy centering, turn a tenon that fits snugly into the opening between the 4 cylinders, photos 10 and 11. Glue the spigots onto each end of the workpiece, photos 12 and 13.

You can now mark out the tealights to the desired height, photo 14. Cut the blanks into two, preferably on the bandsaw, photo 15, they can then be mounted into the dovetail jaws of your chuck.

Now, back to the turning, turn a recess into the end that will comfortably take your glass insert, photo 17. When sanding the recess remember that your workpiece is not round! The inside is all you can safely sand with the lathe turning, photo 18. Smooth all the edges by hand with grit 320 and 400, photo 19, and level off the bottom on the belt sander. Now give the inside and the top end of the four cylinders a coat of sanding sealer.

Your pieces of branch wood have been transformed into a set of tealights that does any dinnertable proud.





The finished articles look elegant on the dining table





Adrian King



Bill Robinson



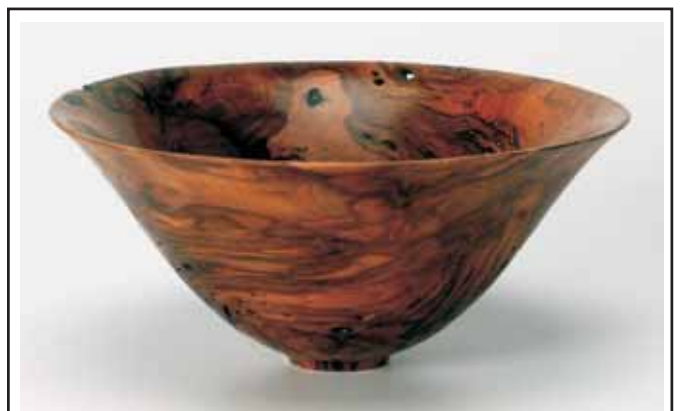
Brian Hollett



Graham Lovett



Mary Ashton



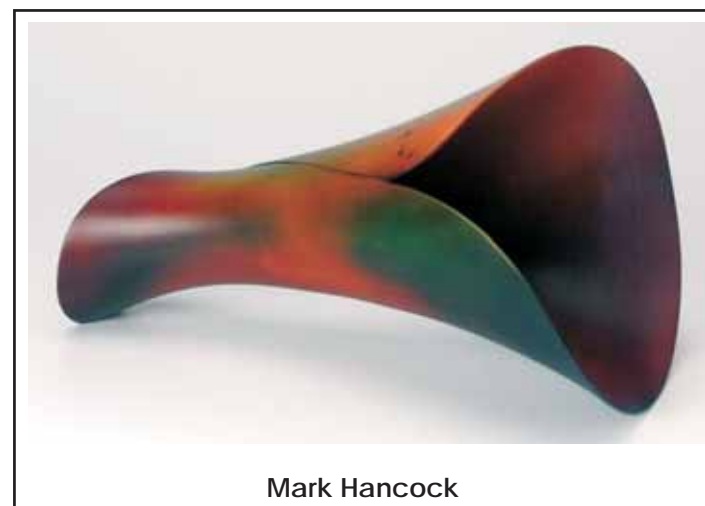
Paul Hannaby



Paul Howard



Don Donaldson



Mark Hancock

A final look at some of the selected pieces
from the
2007 International Seminar.
Photographed by Charles Sharpe



Keith Fenton



Ken Crittle

Teaching the Visually Handicapped to Turn

by Jeff Greenway RPT

By way of introduction, I have lived in Gloucestershire in the small town of Nailsworth all my life. I first developed an interest in woodturning when at school, upon leaving school I served an apprenticeship in carpentry and joinery. In 2003 I was enrolled onto the Register of Professional Turners.

I began turning over twenty-five years ago, selling my work at craft fairs and in local shops, I also undertake general turning and commissions. I have held two successful exhibitions in my home town of Nailsworth. Teaching woodturning is something I have been engaged in for over ten years now and hope to continue for many years to come.

John first contacted me in 2004 to book a woodturning beginner's course. It was during this course that he told me he was partially blind but this did not seem to have any effect on his turning.

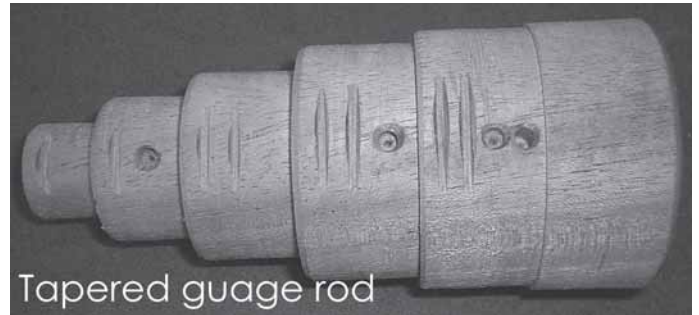
He contacted me again in December 2006 when he informed me that he was now totally blind and asked if I would consider giving him further tuition. Before giving him an answer I gave this a great deal of thought, I realized there would be number of obstacles to overcome. Locating the centre on a square blank before mounting on the lathe, setting calipers to a given size, measuring the length of the item being turned, to name but a few.

Having checked my insurance and the contents of the first aid box, to John's great relief, I decided to take him on and set about designing a number of gadgets that would help him through the immediate problems he would encounter.

I decided to start with spindle turning as I felt this would be more difficult than faceplate work. Firstly John needed to locate the centre of the blank in order to mount it on the lathe. A 6" straight edge and a centre punch were laid out on a bench together with a 2" square blank. Using the straight edge I advised John to score a deep diagonal line on the end of the blank, then on the opposite diagonal draw the punch lightly down the straight edge at the intersection of the two lines the punch would drop into the first deep line indicating the centre of the blank. This was then repeated on the opposite end. To assist mounting the blank on the lathe the punch was pushed deeper than normal making a positive hole to locate the drive and tailstock centre.

He set the tool rest using his fingers as a gauge to establish the distance between the rest and the blank. When he was happy with the position of the rest, the blank was turned by hand to ensure it was free. Using a roughing out gouge the blank was turned to a

cylinder. To help over-running the cut and possibly hitting the centres I advised him to listen to the noise generated by the cut, when the noise stopped he would know that the end of the blank had been reached.



Tapered gauge rod

The next problem to overcome was sizing down the blank to a given diameter. I had previously made a tapered gauge rod marked off in sections, each section had been marked to indicate the size i.e. one groove = 1" one hole = 1/2" two grooves = 2" and so on. Using this rod John had little difficulty setting the calipers.

Having practiced these three operations a number of times, i.e. mark the centre of a blank, mount the blank between centres, reduce it to a cylinder at a given size, he was now ready to turn his first practical items, a small dibber and a handle for a bradawl.



Completing the bradawl

Before he could start turning I had to find a way to show by feel, the shape of the object he would be turning. To do this I sketched the items I had set him. I then set a profile gauge to the shape. By running his fingers down the gauge he could gain a good idea of the shape of each item.

Having completed the dibber and handle he drilled the handle and inserted a masonry nail glued in position to complete the bradawl.

With the spindle turning exercise behind us the next challenge I set was bowl turning. I cut an 8" x 4" ash bowl blank to be held on a screw chuck. I had previously drilled a clearance hole ready to mount on a screw chuck. From this point on all other operations would be carried out by John. He first screwed the blank to the chuck, and then set the tool rest. Before attacking this blank with a bowl gouge it was important that he had a clear understanding of each operation,

and in what order they took place.

I explained that a recess to accept an expanding chuck must be formed, and then the outer profile would be shaped using a 3/8" bowl gouge. I gave John the expanding chuck that would be used to re-chuck the blank after the outer profile had been complete, to help him visualise the operation more clearly. To give him a clear understanding of the shape we hope to achieve I gave him a cardboard cutout depicting the outer shape of the bowl.



After having tried the blank, using the chuck that would be used to remount the blank, he set the external calipers. Having turned a recess he then turned his attention to the outer profile. To prevent John turning too close to the recess, a tool rest with a pin was used; the pin was set at an appropriate distance from the recess. On completion the outer profile was wet sanded to a finish.



The blank was removed from the chuck, and the chuck removed from the lathe. John attached the second chuck to the lathe and then mounted the blank to begin the next operation. To prevent over-running the cut the same rest with a pin was used. At first the concave cuts proved a little difficult as it was difficult to assess the centre of the bowl, but after a few runs he managed to overcome this problem. With the inner profile complete the bowl was wet sanded to a finish.

Teaching a visually handicapped person proved to be every bit a challenge as I had envisaged, but it was also a very rewarding experience, and one that I would gladly do again. Two important things I learnt during the sessions. (1) Do not outwardly show any pity for them, (2) Do not do for them that which they can do for themselves

Having completed the course it is John's intention to purchase his own lathe, we have discussed a number of options, I have offered to help him set his new lathe up and spend a little time to help him familiarize himself with it. I hope John continues turning and maintains the enthusiasm he has shown during the sessions he spent with me.



The AWGB Forum

by Edmund Rose

Getting together online!

Where can you find discussions on such diverse woodturning topics as Turning Leylandii - Superglue - Vacuum chucking - Loose grinding wheels - Clear plastic resin - Information on tools, events, health & safety and items for sale - all in one place?

The answer is the AWGB Forum - probably one of the most underused and at the same time valuable resources available to woodturners. Those five topics are only a few of the many discussed by woodturners of all abilities without leaving the comfort of their own homes.

You don't have to wait for the next issue of a magazine or your next club meeting to have your questions answered, you can just browse the Forum at any time of the day - or night if you prefer - or put your own questions.

So what is the Forum and how can it help woodturners? If you are familiar with the web and online discussion

groups you can probably skip the next couple of paragraphs.

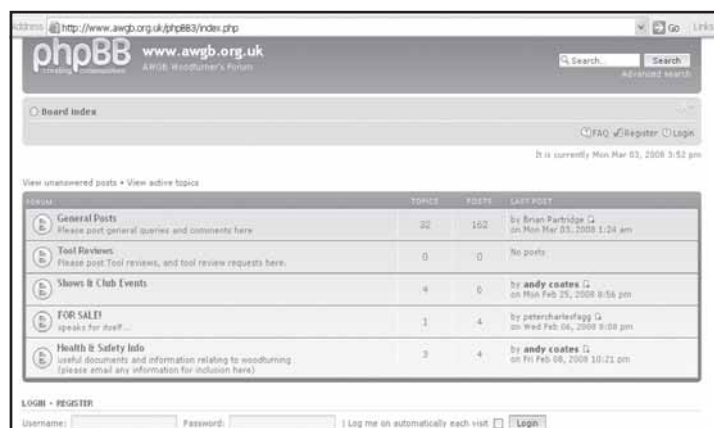
What is the AWGB Forum?

Forums, or online discussion groups, are a wonderful way of exchanging or spreading information between people of like minds and interests.

A forum is like a notice board which is kept in a locked glass case. Anyone can read it but you need to receive a key to open the case doors so as to be able to put a new notice up. In our case, the notices are in fact messages and you get a key by registering.

As all messages, or postings, as they are known can be seen by anyone, you should not share your innermost secrets as you never know who may read them! Forums are also "threaded" (no – not that kind of thread), which means a reply to a particular posting becomes part of the "thread" of that topic that can be followed to provide a logical progression.

So, you can put a question onto the Forum on one day and expect to see replies coming in over the next few days. This can give you a much wider range of replies than you might expect to get from, say, a club meeting.



Benefits of the AWGB Forum

So why should we spend precious time away from our lathe sitting in front of a computer? Here are 5 good reasons: You have access to a wide range of woodturners - far wider than within your club or at an event - You don't have to travel to seek their opinions - You can post a question at any time (you don't have to wait for a meeting) - It provides an extra resource to those currently available to you - It doesn't cost you anything (unless you are on dial-up web access).

Is it easy to use?

The answer to that is yes, probably easier than using a lathe!

Just go to the AWGB website (www.woodturners.co.uk) and click on the link to the Forum.

Once you see the Forum screen, you can browse all categories of messages: General Posts; Tool Reviews; Events; For Sale and Health & Safety.

If you want to ask a question or contribute to a discussion you need to register by giving a few basic details. The forum moderator will then confirm you have been registered and off you go! And don't worry, you won't get loads of junk emails as a result – the forum is an electronically safe environment.

In conclusion

Woodturners are renowned for being willing to share ideas and experiences and it is this that helps to keep the craft continually evolving. The AWGB Forum is a powerful tool with which to keep this process going. But, it can only have momentum if more people participate.

So, when you want a break from turning, go to www.woodturners.co.uk and see for yourself.

What users say

"On the occasions that I have attended exhibitions etc. it is so nice to be able to meet those with whom I have previously corresponded over the internet."

Peter Fagg

"I have already found the forum useful in answering my questions; also the information you can pick up from other members' questions and answers can be extremely useful."

John D Smith

"It is a valuable tool for finding out things - someone out there always has the answer to your question or problem!"

Dave Buskell

"The Forum is useful. Woodturning can be a lonely activity, locked in the shed for hour after hour. Using the Forum gives you access to hundreds of woodturners for the exchange of ideas, information and advice."

"Old Dave"

"There is a wealth of information out there and I have picked up several useful tips."

Dave Atkinson

A Profile of a Club Member by Graham Ball



Coombe Abbey

There are numerous benefits to being a member of a woodturning club, but I think the primary one is being able to learn from each other. Some clubs have professional turners among their ranks and others have very talented amateurs. One such person is John Whittle who is a member of the Coombe Abbey Woodturners based in Coventry.

John Whittle has been woodturning for twelve years, joining his club shortly after purchasing his first lathe. He has an engineering background and has a very artistic talent with colour, piercing, pyrography and texturing. Of course, John like everyone else is inspired by others and in his case he admits that the work of Binh Pho has been a great influence, and more recently so has Joey Richardson.

John Whittle is very active within his club, demonstrating his skills at club hands-on meetings and exhibitions in the area where the club is active.

The Coombe Abbey Woodturners are fortunate to have a permanent workshop in the visitor centre of Coombe Country Park, (from which the club takes its name), which is visited by approx 430,000 visitors annually. In the same location stands the very majestic Coombe Abbey Hotel, steeped in history, which plays host to visitors from all over the world. The very extensive grounds, which were originally laid out by "Capability Brown", add to the visitor's pleasure.

The AWGB executive committee recently arranged to have their committee meeting in the visitor centre of the Coombe Country Park, and a special demonstration day was arranged by the club to coincide with this. Besides using the workshop, three more lathes were set up in an adjacent room known as the "Field Studies Centre", and displays of members' work laid out for sale to the general public, together with an additional display of items on sale in aid of the "Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance" the club's chosen charity.

John Whittle on this occasion had among his items for sale some very nice stemmed boxes which he had decorated using a texturing tool and coloured fillers. These items captured the attention of the AWGB committee and two members promptly bought one each for their own collections, marvelling at the consistency of the pattern John had created on different parts of the objects.

John uses the Robert Sorby texturing tool minus the rest. After creating the pattern he then seals the surrounding wood prior to filling the indentations caused by the tool. Car body filler is sometimes used and also acrylic fillers. Following this operation John sands the piece until the pattern appears. Sealer and then wax polish completes the operation.

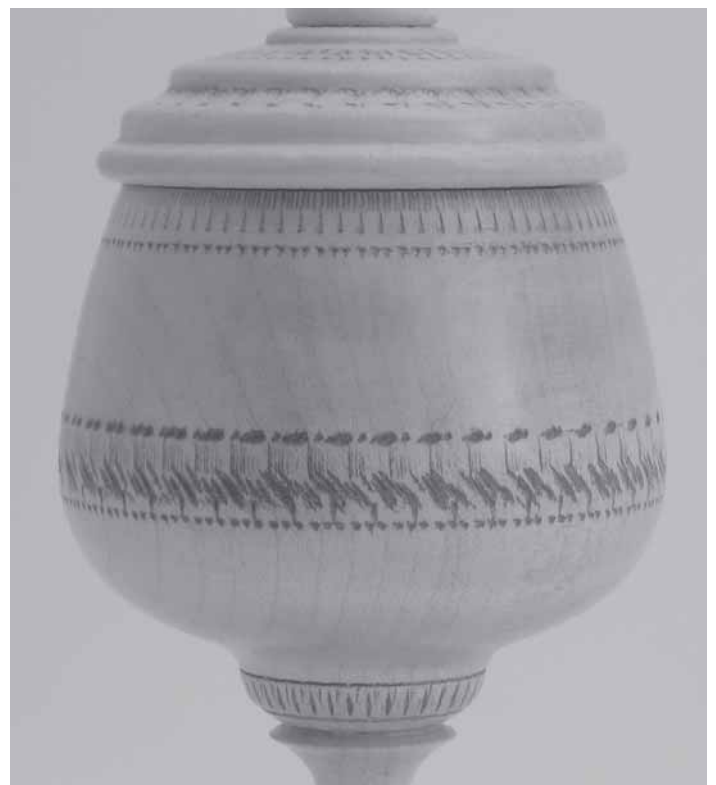
I asked John how he knew the correct angle of presentation of the tool to the work to achieve such a

lovely pattern, but it would seem that trial and error and plenty of practice is all that is required.

Unfortunately there are many people turning in their own workshops who are not members of a club and, sad to say, will not benefit from the skills of people like John Whittle and others. Perhaps they should make an effort to find their local group.



John Whittle's stemmed boxes



Close up of the decoration

One of Those Jobs

by Tim Whiting

I don't know how I manage it, but even when the workshop is flat out I find myself answering "Yes, no problem, we can do that, Monday should be fine" to jobs that even over the phone I know will be a headache. One such job came on a Thursday from a lady who needed two oak posts 180mm square and a metre long bored out to 19mm along its length for some special light feature for a local concert hall in Suffolk.

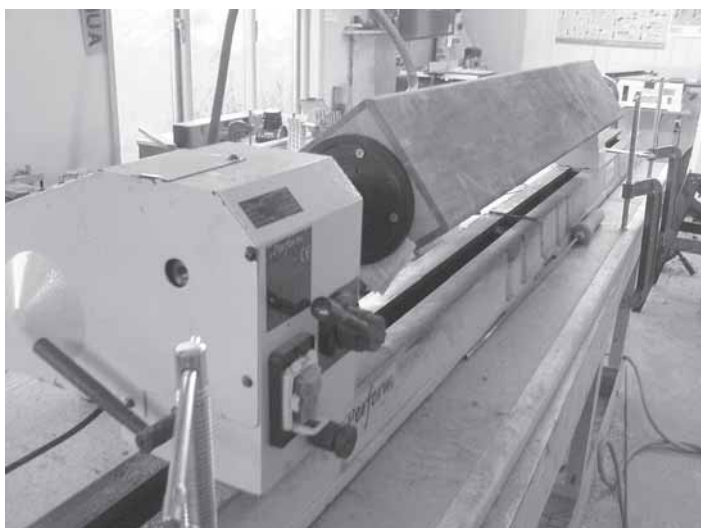
When 2 Become 4

On arrival, I was met by an organised lady with an architect's opinion on what was needed. So far, so good. Things change however, when two oak posts that fit my lathe, suddenly become four obeche posts nearly two metres long, that are sopping wet and due to weight and size clearly don't fit the lathe. But, me being me, I decide to have a go and promise to try for Monday.

When 2 Become 1

I have been a cabinet maker for nine years now and woodturning has been one of my best incomes. So I have had the pleasure of using several special lathes in my time. I've also been mocked on occasion because my preferred lathe is still Axminster's Perform range. In my opinion there still is no better value for money lathe on the market.

So without any more ado I bolted the bed of my dad's CCBL lathe, end on onto my CCBL lathe bed, to an old piece of kitchen worktop and clamped and weighed them down to my heaviest bench. Hey presto one budget mega lathe. (2.7 metres long between centres.)



To the Job in Hand

It turns out that the four posts also needed a stopped hole as they had carved heads. So these were cut off by a snip saw and set aside. To avoid "drilling out" I mounted the posts by faceplate, and carefully packed with folded paper until they ran true, (see picture). Then with a shell auger I bored them out 10mm through the headstock nearly halfway (as far as it reached). Turned

them over (my live centre didn't seem secure enough without it's point with this sort of weight to drill from both sides) and same again, until I had four posts all drilled nearly through with a 10mm pilot hole.



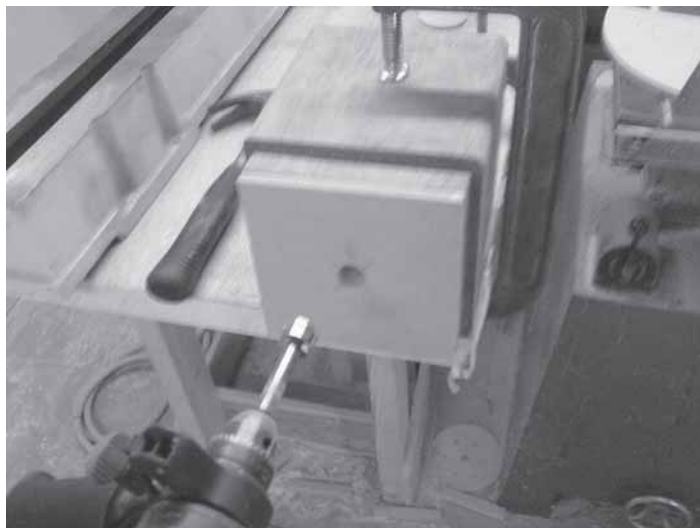
Making Use of the Missus

My wife Rea meanwhile had been running around buying a 19mm drill bit and a length of 15mm rod to be welded together to make a suitable length drill bit. Armed with this and a mains power drill, I proceeded to drill out the posts, (See picture) amazingly glitch free from both sides, allowing daylight to be seen through all four posts. Phew.



Re-fixing the Tops

To re-fix the tops I cut a piece of MDF 180mm square and drilled a 28mm hole through it to be a template for a 28mm beech dowel to be drilled into both posts and tops. I glued them all up and stood them upside down so their weight would hold them clamped together. All by 7.30pm Sunday evening, job done!



Tips for the Future

Don't sharpen shell augers on a grinder unless you know what you are doing. They bite. Use a lisher, they don't.

Involve your wife - she'll be more interested in how you got on and less on the fact that you were two hours late for guests you were supposed to be entertaining.



The Ely Guild of Woodturners

by Peter Symonds

The Ely Guild of Woodturners was founded on 17th February, 1988 by the late Reverend Alun Lloyd Davies. Meetings were held at the gift shop and tea room at Steeplegate, High Street, Ely, owned by another founder member John Ambrose, a man well known in the world of turning. John became President, Alun was Chairman, Ken Howard Treasurer and Adrian Flude Secretary.

The meeting place moved to Little Thetford village hall in 1990 when membership became too large to be comfortably accommodated at Steeplegate. Later, a constitution and logo were adopted, and membership now numbers around eighty.

Amongst our past and present members we can include a many times gold medal national and international winner, silver and bronze medal winners from national exhibitions, a well known turner in a wooden hat, at least two published authors, a previous editor of Woodturning magazine, and a committee member of the AWGB.

The Guild meets on the first Wednesday of the month, and enjoys a varied programme of demonstrations by both professional turners and club members, competitions, raffles and the occasional coach trip to woodworking events. In December we have a 'fun night', when the ladies are invited, and the bar is usually open, and in January the annual dinner takes place.

In August 2007 we staged a ten day exhibition in the centre of Ely which was very successful, and we have already started planning a similar event for this year. It is hoped this will continue for many years to come.

Membership of the Guild is open to anyone, whether professional, amateur, beginner or collector. Further details can be found on our website: www.elyguildofwoodturners.co.uk, where a gallery of some of the members work can also be viewed.



A selection of work from the Ely Guild

International Seminar 2009

The next AWGB International Seminar will take place on the 7th, 8th and 9th of August 2009.

Apparently a significantly awe inspiring list of presenters are in the pipeline. It is hoped that full details of what to expect will be available in the next issue of Revolutions.

News from the Southern Region

by Mike Collas

As the representative for the Southern Region I must admit that there are still a lot of Branches and Associated Clubs I have yet to visit. However during the coming months I intend to rectify this and visit as many as I can. If there is ever a meeting that you would like me to attend please contact me with an invitation. As well as Branches and Clubs we Regional Representatives are here for the benefit of individual members. Always remember that the Association is a membership organisation so if any member has any problem or difficulty with the Association or Woodturning in general please contact me, or your own Regional Representative, and we will do whatever we can to resolve the matter. Equally if you have ideas of how we can improve the service of the Association to you let us know and it will be put to the Executive Committee for consideration.

For the first time in April we were invited to have a display at Yandles Wood Show at Martock. On our first attendance there things seem to have gone reasonably well, although I am sure, if we are again invited, we will be able to improve the standard of the stand. I found it most interesting to be able to meet so many members and other Woodturners who have not yet joined us, some of whom I hope will become members as we handed out over 150 leaflets and application forms. All the Clinic demonstrators and stewards worked hard to advance woodturning and the AWGB by answering many questions and offering sound advice. The gallery was made up of almost half of the items selected at last years Seminar Instant Gallery.

In closing I have to record that we were represented by the Kent Branch at the Stiles and Bates Show and by Executive Committee and West Sussex members at the West's Wood Show.

Answers to the Crossword

Across

- 1 Richard
- 7 Orange
- 9 Finial
- 10 Larch
- 11 Abrasive
- 15 Skew
- 16 Lime
- 18 Sap
- 20 Oh
- 21 Ray Key
- 23 Beech
- 24 Ash

Down

- 1 Raffan
- 2 Centre
- 3 Amass
- 4 Do
- 5 Snare
- 6 Mesh
- 8 Ruler
- 12 Ilex
- 13 Yew
- 14 Ashley
- 15 Spruce
- 17 Iroko
- 19 Teach
- 22 Yes

A word of warning!

Timothy had loved tractors since he was four years old. He had pictures of them all over his bedroom wall. He had models of all shapes, size and colour in his toy cupboard. For his fifth birthday, he was given a pedal powered tractor. Life was perfect.

As he grew up he was able to expand his interest and started visiting country fairs and auctions where he could see the real things, talk to the owners and occasionally even drive them. He was their number one fan.

Then one day he met a girl, Carol, who decided his interest in tractors was affecting their relationship. She wanted something to keep him at home so she introduced him to a group of woodturners. This would be very useful as he would be spending more time at home and the things he made would be useful round the house.

Carol's plan worked out perfectly and Timothy gave up his obsession with tractors. He made all sorts of things, a set of candlesticks, a standard lamp for the hall, a pan trivet for the kitchen and even a set of coasters for her favourite wine glasses.

One day while Timothy was busy in his workshop, Carol invited her friend Pam round to see her new cooker. "It's brilliant", she said, "and fully automatic". Unfortunately she had forgotten that Timothy had left some wood drying in the oven and a few minutes later the kitchen was filled with thick, pungent wood smoke.

Carol made a grab for the kitchen fire blanket, just in case the situation got worse, and was trying to think of how to clear the smoke from the kitchen. She turned to Pam and shouted, "Quick get Tim in here, he's an ex-tractor fan!"

Forthcoming Events

June 4th - 6th

Wizardry In Wood, for full details see the advertising panels on page six. The AWGB will have a significant input to this event.

June 27th - 28th

Open House at The Toolpost. See the advert on page 29 for full details

July 12th

The Suffolk, Essex and Cambridge Borders branch present "A Day with Mark Hancock" at Peter Child, The Old Hyde, Little Yeldham, Essex. Entry is £10 which includes the barbeque. To book contact Brian Partridge on 01473 828489.

August 16th

Turn East, presented by Norfolk Woodturners, for full details see the advert on page six.

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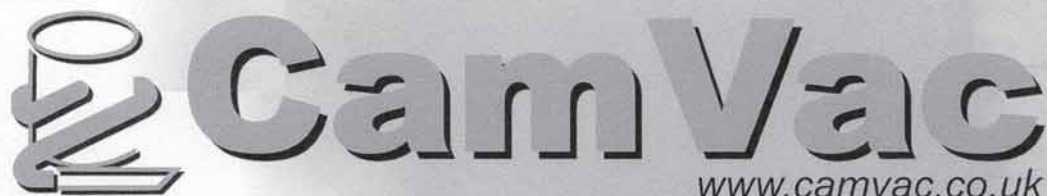


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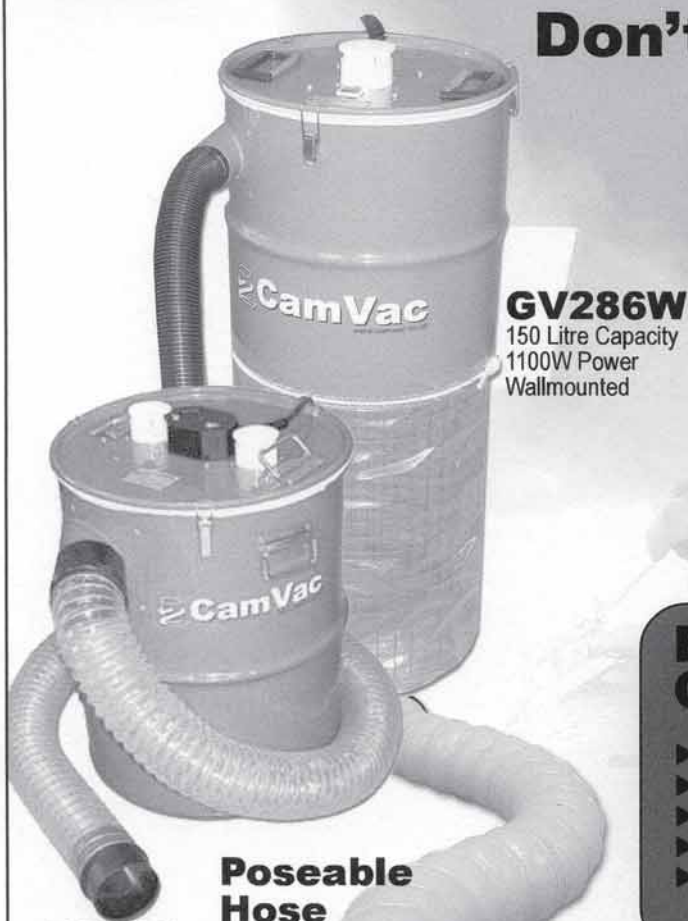
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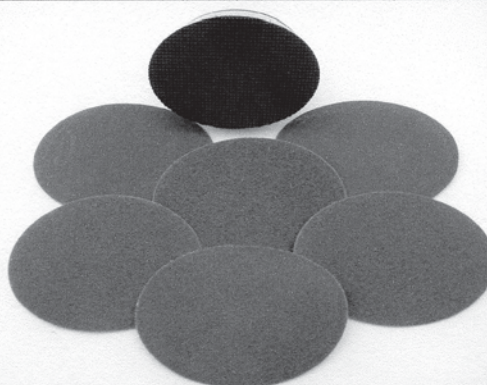
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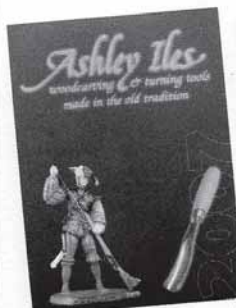
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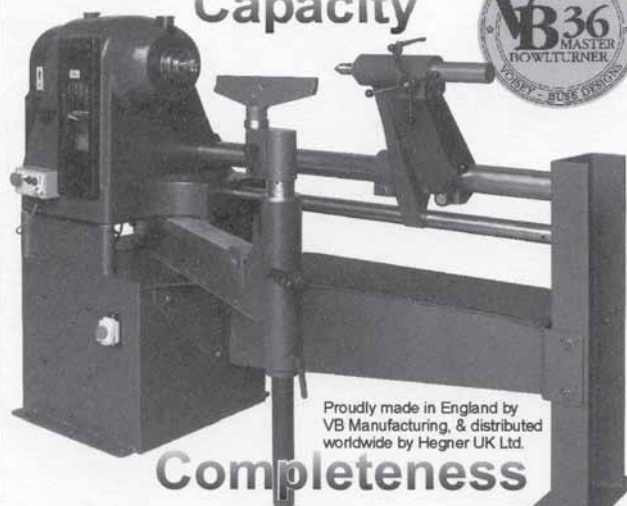
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