



Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Issue No 92

March 2010



www.woodturners.co.uk

Craft Supplies Ltd

Leading supplier of tools, machinery, accessories and timber
for the woodturner and woodworker

Order online from over 3000 Products
Over 5,000 wood blanks always on display



Art Veneers & Marquetry
Janik Pyrography
Charles Greville Clocks
Soundwood - Guitar & musical
instrument wood, accessories,
including finishes and tools.



Your old Shopsmith in part exchange for a new Mark V
Servicing facilities for any woodworking machinery
Full range of genuine Shopsmith spare parts stocked

Free Demonstrations

1st Saturday of each month
check our website for details

Courses Woodturning, Woodcarving, Pyrography, French
Polishing, Routing, Cabinet & Furniture making

Courses run throughout the year & tailored to suit individuals
check our website for details

Retail Shop Opening Hours Mon-Sat 8.30am - 5.00pm
CLOSED SUNDAY

Craft Supplies Ltd Newburgh Works Netherside Bradwell
Derbyshire S33 9JL Tel 01433 622550 Fax 01433 622 552
email: sales@craft-supplies.co.uk Online supplement

www.craft-supplies.co.uk

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President

Ray Key
The Firs, 53 Weston Road, Bretforton,
Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 7HW

Chairman

Reg Hawthorne
Kiln Gardens, Chapel Street, Stow on the
Wold, Gloucestershire, GL54 1DA
Phone: 01451 831675
E-mail: reg.hawthorne@btinternet.com

Vice Chairman

Mike Donovan
114 Bridgetown Road, Stratford upon Avon,
Warwickshire, CV37 7JA
Phone: 01789 204513
E-mail: mikedd@tiscali.co.uk

Treasurer

Adrian Needham
Brimbles, 114 Slough Road, Datchet,
Berkshire, SL3 9AF
Phone: 01753 593771
E-mail: ajneedham@e-brimbles.com

Secretary

Mike Collas
8 Wiltshire Gardens, Twickenham, Middlesex,
TW2 6ND
Phone: 0208 894 6759
E-mail: mike.collas@btinternet.com

Membership Secretary

David Atkinson
87 Whirley Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire,
SK10 3JW
Phone: 07810 648344
E-mail: david.atkinson73@ntlworld.com

Trade & Business Liaison Officer

Currently vacant

Public Relations Officer

Andy Coates
14 Newson Avenue, Mutford, Beccles,
Suffolk, NR34 7UN
Phone: 01502 476332
E-mail: andy@cobwebcrafts.co.uk

Webmaster

Brian Partridge
Homeside, Lady Lane, Hadleigh, Suffolk,
IP76AF
Phone: 01473 828489
E-mail: brianparf@aol.com

Training & Development Officer

Peter Bradwick
183 Llantarnam Road, Cwmbran, Gwent,
NP44 8BG
Phone: 01633 873640
E-mail: peterbradwick@btinternet.com

Data Manager - Insurance -

Health & Safety

David Atkinson
87 Whirley Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire,
SK10 3JW
Phone: 07810 648344
E-mail: david.atkinson73@ntlworld.com

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Northern Counties & Scotland

David Grainger
Laurel Bank, Kirby Thore, Penrith, Cumbria,
CA10 1XN
Phone: 01768 361744
E-mail: woodinwest4@btinternet.com

Southern Counties

Martin Lawrence
Hollytree Farm Cottage, Damery Lane,
Berkeley, Gloucestershire, GL13 9JR
Phone: 01454 269733
E-mail: martin@lawrence5.
orangehome.co.uk

Eastern Counties

Brian Partridge - see Webmaster

Midlands & Wales

Position vacant

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Lionel Pringle
Merrymead, 57 Westfield Lane,
St Leonards on sea, East Sussex, TN37 7NE
Phone: 01424 752452
E-mail: lionel_pringle@yahoo.co.uk

Chairman's Notes

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year and by now I'm sure you have all been in your workshops trying out the new tools acquired at Christmas.

We have been busy over the holiday period and I can now say that the AWGB/Scout initiative has now been launched. We are kicking off with four branches and their local troops.

Assessment criteria and certificates have been agreed by Scout headquarters and a Scout pack prepared. The initial four will be used as a trial and when completed we will then roll the scheme out using interested branches and members. I hope everyone will be willing to be involved in this scheme, which I'm sure will give a lot of satisfaction to those passing on their skills to the young. It will have the potential to bring some young people into the fold. It also has the advantage of adding something different to the club calendar.

The question of CRB checks has been addressed, although the requirements have been recently relaxed, it is anticipated that scouts attending a session will be accompanied by one of their leaders. If in the fullness of time leaders are not always available then we can have our own people checked for free via the Scouts organisation. They would be classed as a specialised skills instructor.

If you are interested in getting involved please let Peter Bradwick or myself know. A "Scout" pack is available with assessment criteria, project drawings (where applicable), certificates etc.

Another subject I mentioned last time was the possibility of making progress towards a national competition. We are intending to take a small step towards this by using any multi branch activities already organised, Turn Essex and the new event being organised by the Tudor Rose club in the Midlands are examples. We will select some pieces towards the next travelling exhibition from these events. Elsewhere in this issue Mike Collas explains how you can get one of your pieces selected to make up the complete exhibition. What I would like to see, in the fullness of time, is enough of these regional events being organised so that, together with pieces from individual members, we could have a large exhibition at a show where it could then be judged, with worthwhile prizes awarded.

In order to try and make the AGM more of an event, please bring one or two of your pieces along to create an instant gallery and I will donate a prize for the piece I like best.

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 held 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 in this manner then please contact the Secretary whose details are opposite.

AWGB LAPEL BADGES

(Brass & enamel)
£2.50 (p&p included)

CLOTH BADGES

For sewing on smocks etc.
£4.00 (p&p included)

CAR STICKERS

£1 plus sae (9" x 6")
or postage free with badge orders

All available from the
AWGB secretary
(details opposite)
Please make all payments
to AWGB

FRONT COVER

An artistic piece of
work
from the 2009
AWGB Seminar,
made by
Jennie Starbuck.

Photographed by
Charles Sharpe

Copy deadline
for the next
edition of
Revolutions

April 17th

Introducing Woodturning to the General Public

Mike Collas (AWGB Hon Sec)

Following the 2009 Seminar it was decided that, for the first time, the pieces in our travelling gallery would be divided into two sections. This gives us more scope to bring our work to a wider audience. At our traditional type of venue there are occasions when the Association is invited to shows which are held twice in the same twelve month period; splitting the gallery work means we will be able to display different pieces at each show. This will also apply to shows where it is thought that, due to the geographic proximity of venues, it is possible that those attending the show are likely to have also visited the neighbouring event.

It is the intention of the Executive Committee that we should endeavour to ensure we do everything possible to bring the craft of woodturning to the attention of the general public, not just to those already interested in woodturning and other wood related crafts. In order to advance our objective we need our Affiliated Branches and Associated Clubs to help and support the Executive Committee in their aim. Although no doubt there are various ways to satisfy our ambition, there are initially two methods which we would ask branches and clubs to consider.

The first of these is that Affiliated Branches and Associated Clubs consider and investigate the possibility of organising a special exhibition to display the travelling gallery, hopefully, at a venue where large numbers of non-wood enthusiasts are likely to visit, say in a shopping centre or other busy urban thoroughfare. At such an exhibition your members would be able to sell their own work on display at the event.

The alternative is to make space in your existing exhibitions or shows to display the items from the travelling gallery. A small number of branches have already included the gallery in their own exhibitions and this, I am informed, has benefitted the club on two counts. It has allowed their visitors to see styles and elements of woodturning that their own members do not currently undertake. From the club's perspective it has become apparent that "some of our members work compares very favourably with the best in the country".

Affiliated Branches and Associated Clubs are asked to consider working with an AWGB or other craft related group, or groups, in their area so that a combined exhibition can be arranged. It is felt that this would be beneficial for all concerned.

If your group feels that they would like to follow up on these suggestions, it will be necessary to make a request to the AWGB Secretary, (that's me) as early as possible in the planning process, to borrow either part

of the travelling gallery. This is so that the availability and the logistics of getting it to and from the venue can be controlled. It will also allow and ensure that the essential insurance cover is in place whilst the items are in your care.

The Executive Committee appreciate and accept that the arranging of an extra event may well cause additional expenditure for venue hire and local advertising. It is expected that the majority of any such costs will be accepted by the organisers in supporting the Association. However if such an event causes hardship the committee will consider the possibility of limited financial assistance providing a fully costed proposal is submitted to the AWGB Treasurer, prior to any expenditure being made.

If you have any questions regarding these matters please contact me direct, all contact details can be found on page three of this newsletter.

Do You Value your Work?

Paul Bellamy

At Christmas time lots of charities need and ask for support. Doing something for charity makes you feel good, as do your hobbies, otherwise why would you do them? In our case that's woodturning. But do we get the best out of this when we combine the two?

Whatever we do to support charities, the aim surely is to raise the maximum amount of money for them, so that they have the necessary funds to carry out their work.

So, do charities benefit from us selling items so cheap that nobody will refuse to buy them?

As an example, last year at a charity event I saw an immaculate large yew vase sold for £10. The buyer obviously couldn't believe the low price, and actually asked the seller to confirm it. The wood alone would have cost at least £30 from any timber merchant (I know some of us get wood for free, but that is irrelevant). The time taken to make and finish the vase must have been several hours, so even at the minimum wage of £5.80 per hour that would be at least £20. Then there's the cost of finishes, the workshop costs for power, heating and lighting and the tools.

Surely a better alternative would be to sell your finished items at a realistic price that includes all of the above and then give an enhanced sum of money to the charity. This has several benefits – you will feel proud as your work is perceived to be more valuable, both financially and aesthetically and you have covered your costs. But primarily you will get a lot more money which you can pass on to the charity. They will thank

you even more for the significantly increased funds.

The majority of people will pay for quality goods, especially unique and hand crafted items. The purchaser will value the item even more if they have paid a good but fair price for it. You will be willing to produce even more pieces for sale as your costs are covered and you will get a lot more pleasure from your hobby. Everyone wins!

By the way, regarding the vase that was sold for a tenner, I happened to be chatting with the buyers later on and they told me that they thought the price was £100!

In fact if you sell your item for less than it actually costs to make aren't you actually reducing what you are giving to charity? Instead of buying bits and pieces to make something for charity, which you then sell for less than that figure, why not just donate all of the original money instead? That would be more than they are currently receiving from the sale of the finished item.

I realise this is a contentious issue. Don't get me wrong, I support several charities, I give them money from items I have sold and it's a lot more than pennies. I am not suggesting we inflate our prices, only that we value our hard work realistically. So think about it. Would the charities we support prefer to receive £5 or £50?



Cellulose Sanding Sealer
•
Finishing Oil
•
Lemon Oil
•
Acrylic Gloss Lacquer
•
Acrylic Sanding Sealer
•
Safety Cloth
•
Spirit Stain
•
Acrylic Lacquer
•
Burnishing Cream
•
Cellulose Thinners
•
End Seal
•
Friction Polish
•
French Polish
•
Melamine Lacquer
•
Wood Wax 22
•
Steel Wool
•
Polishing Brushes
•
Sbellac Sanding Sealer

CHESTNUT
P R O D U C T S
first for finishes

Used by woodturners of all abilities throughout the UK and the world, the Chestnut Products range of top quality finishes gives outstanding results every time; whatever you are making and whatever your preferred finishing system there is bound to be something in our range to meet your needs.

See your local stockist for more information or for a catalogue/price list contact us at:

Chestnut Products
PO Box 536,
Ipswich IP4 5WN
Tel: 01473 425 878 Fax: 01473 431 096
www.chestnutproducts.co.uk
mailroom@chestnutproducts.co.uk
Stockist enquiries welcome

IMPORTANT NOTICE

From the Membership Secretary
PLEASE READ

To all members who pay by standing order, can you please make sure that your standing order has been updated to reflect the new subscription rates. Standing orders have to be updated by you; they are not like direct debits where the banks alter the amount.

If your standing order was for £14 only, as shown on your bank statement, and you have not sent the extra £2 to the Membership Secretary then your membership has not been processed. If you are in any doubt please check with the Membership Secretary about the status of your membership, if you have received your new, 2010, membership card then your membership has been processed.

If you set up, or change, your standing order in any way can you please make sure that your membership number is used as a reference, this is to ensure that the standing order is matched to the correct member.

At the moment we have two anonymous payments that cannot be traced, one is a £2 payment, an update from £14 to £16 but with no membership number or even a name. The other one is a payment of £22, the old rate for a family membership, there is no membership number on this one, there is something like a name but it makes no sense, and it is nothing like anything on the database. The only thing we can do with these is to wait until these members start querying why their membership has lapsed, which is not the best way to do it. Your membership number is on your membership card. If you have lost your card the Membership Secretary can advise you of your number. Contact details on page three.



**The Annual General Meeting 2010 will be held at
ODDINGTON VILLAGE HALL
Lower Oddington, Nr. Stow on the Wold, Gloucestershire
GL56 0XD
At 2.0 pm on Sunday, 28th March 2010.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the A.G.M. held at Daventry Community Centre, held on Sunday, 5th April 2009.
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the A.G.M. held at Daventry Community Centre held on Sunday, 5th April 2009.
4. To receive and adopt the Honorary Chairman's report
5. To receive and adopt the Honorary Treasurer's report and financial accounts for the year ended 31.12.2009.
6. To receive the result of any postal votes relating to any motion properly put within the Constitution of the AWGB.
7. To receive the results of any postal votes for the election of Officers and Executive Committee members. *See Note Below*
8. To receive the result of any postal votes relating to the posts of Regional Representatives East and West. *See Note Below*
9. Any other matter at the discretion of the Chairman.

Note: Should there be only one nomination for each post the nominee's appointment will be recorded without a ballot.

Branch Meeting 2010

The AGM will be preceded at 11.00 am by the Branch Representatives Annual Meeting, the Branch meeting affords an opportunity for the Executive Committee to meet with Branch representatives to discuss in informal forum matters of mutual interest. The EC will present briefings and suggested subjects are, the AWGB Insurance Scheme, Training and Development, membership and AWGB links with other organisations. Branches are invited to submit other topics for discussion/review to the Honorary Secretary by no later than Saturday 20th March 2010.

All Branches and Members are reminded of the importance of these Annual meetings. Branches are asked to endeavour to make sure they are represented at the Branch meeting and all members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting.

NB Only fully paid up members of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting and/or the Branch Representatives Annual Meeting.

AGM Special Attractions

There will be an Instant Gallery, and all those attending are requested to bring at least one piece to be displayed. The Chairman will present a special prize for the piece he selects from the Instant Gallery. This is possibly a 'one off' and therefore is an opportunity not to be missed.

English Hardwoods will yet again be offering first quality kiln dried British Timber at exceptionally competitive prices. Those who have attended Annual General Meetings in the last couple of years I am sure will agree that this is a chance to obtain some great value wood.

For the first time there will be a sales table, so bring along those quality woodturning tools and items that you no longer require and provide your colleagues with the opportunity to take them home and you hopefully to have more cash in your pocket. All items should have a label or card attached showing the seller's name and the amount asked for the particular item.

The two maps to the right show the location of the venue for this years meeting. We look forward to seeing a large number of you on the 28th March.



Worshipful Company of Turners Competitions

The existence of these competitions was covered quite fully in the December issue of this newsletter; however we make no apology for bringing this matter to your attention again.

There is a strong misconception that these competitions are only open to professional woodturners, **this is not the case**. Professionals and amateurs are all welcome to participate; the only real qualification that needs to be fulfilled is that you be a woodturner resident in Great Britain.

We know, from the quality of the work presented at the AWGB International Seminar, that a significant body of our membership is more than capable of producing work to a standard that stands a better

than even chance of walking away with one of the prizes. These prizes are not inconsiderable ranging from £1250 cash to £50 vouchers.

Details of what you are required to make, the full list of what you may win and a full set of the rules and conditions can be found on the AWGB website or can be had by post by making a request to the editor of *Revolutions*.

It is really worthwhile giving it a go, why not take the chance?

A newly-wed couple had recently opened a joint bank account. 'Darling,' said the man. 'The bank returned that cheque you wrote last week.' 'Great,' said the woman. 'What shall I spend it on next?'

To Fit in a Baked Bean Tin

Mike Openshaw

Inspired by an article by Bob Weston in December 09's issue of *Revolutions* I thought readers might be vaguely interested in my little project.



Avon and Bristol Woodturners hold monthly competitions and having been a member for some five months I thought I'd better enter at least one. But being a totally unskilled new member there was nothing among the year's topics that I felt able to tackle - nothing that is except for one with the intriguing title "To fit in a baked bean tin". That seemed to open up all sorts of possibilities and very soon ideas started to form, the first of which was to buy a tin of baked beans (I resisted the obvious temptation to buy a large "catering" size) and besides, consumption of the contents might well bring in its wake (so to speak) problems leading to social exclusion.

My original idea was to make a giant wooden baked bean to fit inside the real tin but that seemed a bit too unimaginative - a hollow bean containing a knife and fork would be far more eye-catching. A dinner plate, side plate, a cup and saucer, and a teaspoon quickly followed and it wasn't long before a table and chairs had been added to the list.

Now it had developed a life of its own and called for a bit more thought. The table and chair presented a challenge because clearly they would not fit into the tin, let alone the hollow bean, unless they could be flat-packed. The solution I came up with is not likely to be adopted by Ikea but it worked for me.

The chair would be loosely based on a "standard" café-style high-backed model with removable back, legs and seat. Because they had to "fit into a baked bean tin" I couldn't glue anything so all pieces had to be able to slot together and stay put without adhesive. This meant turning spigots of around 1/32" diameter - not easy in mahogany (I used this wood because that's what I had plenty of at the time, albeit in small bits). The carving of the seat profile was a bit fiddly but satisfying, as was the curved backrest, but

eventually the thing went together quite well.

The knife, fork and teaspoon were all carved from a piece of birch that I'd picked up in Scotland a few years back when I was walking the West Highland Way with a group of other misguided individuals. The wood had pretty well dried out by the time I came to use it - the main problems were first holding the pieces and secondly actually seeing what I was doing but I had recently been given a magnifying glass on a flexible stand and this was very useful. I wanted the knife to look as authentic as possible so the blade was tapered in section toward the cutting edge. As an added refinement I fitted mahogany laminates to either side of the knife handle - someone remarked, rather disparagingly, I thought, that it was an interesting example of "cutting-edge technology."

The cup, saucer and plates, though obviously very small, presented no major problems, especially when observed via a flexible magnifier which had been attached to the lathe. The only really fiddly bit was the cup handle which was made in one piece and was carved from the ubiquitous Scottish birch.

Bearing in mind the need to retain some kind of plausible scaling it was obvious that the design of the table was going to need a bit of careful thought. My solution was to make the top in three main parts, namely a centre section comprising four slotted planks with two semicircular end-sections. In effect, the whole tabletop became a tongued-and-grooved assembly. The semicircular end-pieces, when disassembled doubled as a lid which just fitted into the top of the baked bean tin. Everything else was inside the tin and out of sight.

The table legs are a bit out of proportion because when I originally made them they were too fat to get into the tin so they had to be made thinner - not too easy to do retrospectively.

Permanent assembly was out of the question so I glued sprung sockets to the underside of the end-pieces. These held the legs very firmly yet allowed them to be removed when necessary.

The wood I used for all but the centre section was taken from a plank I'd retrieved from a caravan balcony. The centre sections were made from a piece of oak I'd been given many years ago by a local furniture maker. The grooves were cut on my bandsaw and the "tongues" were made from strips of mahogany veneer which happened to be just the right thickness.

The hollow bean was made from a piece of beech that I'd kept since my teenage aeromodelling days so it too was well seasoned. The two halves went together onto three brass locating dowels. I was tempted to paint it "baked-bean colour" but decided that I should let the wood speak for itself so I

clear-lacquered it instead.

After I'd completed these items I was disappointed to see that there was still quite a bit of room to spare, both in the tin and the hollow "bean" so next came a salt and pepper set and the bottle of HP sauce - again made from the piece of birch. Accurate measurements were essential here because unless it was made in correct proportion the famous label wouldn't look right. Removing the label from a bottle of HP sauce without damaging it posed another problem. Normally simply heating the label softens the adhesive enough to enable removal without damage - not so the HP glue which defied all attempts, whether by heating or by application of a number of solvents (water couldn't be used for fear of wrinkling the paper). So in the end I had to resort to photographing the bottle from all four sides then spending an inordinate amount of time with Photoshop to tolerably join up the individual pictures. Getting the completed label to the right size was a piece of cake after that.

The bottle didn't contribute much to the filling of the remaining space so the "Russian Doll" idea came to mind - a set of miniature baked bean tins, each fitting into the other. Again, this required a bit of thought - the proportions had to be retained and each had to fit snugly into the other in order to get as many as possible into the available space. This was now becoming a bit of an engineering job so (and I can hear shudders from the woodturning purists, but to them I say, "when needs must...") I resorted to my metal-turning lathe which enabled me to produce eleven tins, of 1/32" wall thickness, with a small clearance to allow for the thickness of the paper labels. The "tins" were made largely from mahogany but I had also to resort to obeche scraps.

Heinz label-glue is more user-friendly so it was a simple matter to carefully remove and scan the full-sized label then reproduce it to the eleven different-sizes needed. I was very pleased and not a little relieved to discover that when finished they all fitted together very well.

In the display I'd decided to place one of the "tins" on the table (woodturners will no doubt be shocked by this show of bad table manners) but it was that which revealed the most serious of all omissions - there was no tin opener! With only a few days to go before the competition judging our best tin opener found its way into the workshop where it was subjected to minute examination and its vital statistics carefully recorded on a full-size drawing. I then used a pair of very ancient Thornton proportional dividers to do the scaling and the small end dimensions were measured with a vernier caliper then superimposed on the drawing. Being a natural hoarder I found a piece of aluminium wire of exactly the right diameter for the lever (it was very soft so I "cold-rolled" it to both straighten and harden it), for the cutter I used a piece

of sardine tin, and the key and handle were made from a discarded aluminium label. The serrations on the drive-wheel had to be made on the metal-turning lathe by holding it in the chuck and, in the absence of a dividing head, indexing it with the headstock gearwheel. The serrations were cut manually with a vee-shaped cutter mounted sideways in the cross-slide. This was a tricky operation as the wheel was only just over 1/16" in diameter - so the hole in its centre had to be quite small, as did the shaft that joined it to the key. It goes without saying that all operations on this device were carried out with the aid of the magnifying glass.

I have been asked whether it actually opens tins. What do you think?

Although I was a bit nervous on the day of the competition it went quite well but more important, I had at last contributed something to the club's activities. And that is the moral underlying this little story - don't be put off by your lack of skill or ability, for it is participation by all members, not their prowess alone that keeps your club alive and well.

And what has happened to the baked bean display? Being of no practical value nor particularly decorative it has nevertheless appeared in three club-related exhibitions, presumably as an exemplar showing how people can waste a lot of time while appearing to be productive.

Currently it resides in my lounge and serves as a talking point for visitors, very few of whom ever return.



Question: Why does a retiree often say he doesn't miss work, but misses the people he used to work with?

Answer: He is too polite to tell the whole truth.

Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?

Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Henry Taylor Tools

are proud to announce a significant advance in the performance of turning tools with the introduction of their new Kryo range; building as it does on its 170 year reputation for fine woodworking tools.

KRYO

The Kryo range takes the already superior M2 High Speed Steel to new heights of performance with a ground breaking metallurgical processing technology. Unlike the hard surface coating (eg: Titanium Nitride) of blades that diminishes as it gets worn away, the Kryo treatment significantly improves the strength, hardness, and wear resistant characteristics throughout the tool.

Kryo treatment is an advanced cryogenic technique that changes the structure of the whole blade; put simply a blade is subjected to a complex immersion procedure at very low temperatures (as low as minus 195C) to produce an ultra fine harder (martensitic) structure, supported by fine carbides. In practical terms this means wear resistance, and therefore, the retention of a good cutting edge, is increased by at least 2 to 3 times longer than would be the case, even for M2 high-speed steel tools.

In fact, blades treated in this way, perform very favourably with more exotic, and costly materials, such as ASP 2030, but at a fraction of their price.

The new range is easily identified by the Kryo logo and gold coloured flume on the blade. However, to experience the remarkable performance difference is but one step away, you only need to try one to know there's no going back.

*Go on -
spoil yourself!*



Henry Taylor Tools Limited

The Forge, Peacock Estate
Livesey Street, Sheffield S6 2BL

Tel: 0114 234 0282

Fax: 0114 285 2015

Email: sales@henrytaylortools.co.uk

Web: www.henrytaylortools.co.uk



A Brand New (Ad)Venture

Wood-Works @ Daventry is a show being put on by Tudor Rose Woodturners now that there is no major woodworking show in the area. Full and up-to-date information about the show can be found on the show page at www.tudor-rose-turners.co.uk

The main purpose of the show, which is being opened by David Springett, is to put on a social event in the Midlands, to encourage clubs in the area to get together and exchange views, ideas, interests and skills. This is also an opportunity to promote woodworking hobbies to the public in general. We are expecting ten clubs to join us for an interesting weekend. The show content will consist of demonstrations (both club and professional), displays, competitions, the AWGB travelling exhibition, a second hand table and a dozen or more well known traders who will be offering you a chance to spend a little money.

We are expecting the professional demonstrations to be put on by, amongst others, Gary Rance, Les Thorne and Steve Heeley, and you will have plenty of opportunity to meet them during the show.

The prize draw and various competitions are all being sponsored by 'GMC' as well as many of the traders we have invited to attend.

Anybody, be they club based or a member of the public, can take a 1 hour slot on the special interests table (to be pre-booked please, via jonandbron@googlemail.com, or telephone 01604 491510). This is a chance for you to talk about, and display your work. No demonstration time is expected of you, it is talk time only about your special interest.

Food and refreshments are available all day in the show venue, plus there are several catering outlets within a short walk into town.

And finally, you have free entry into the show and free local car parking, so come and join us for a grand day out at: The Saxon Suite, Daventry Leisure Centre, Lodge Road, Daventry, NN11 4FP on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th April, 2010. The leisure centre is signposted from all major approach roads to Daventry, and is in the town centre between Eastern Way and South Way. The show opening hours are between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on both days.

Report from the North

Dave Grainger

Although this region is not as dense as others, there has been a great deal of activity during 2009.

A special effort was made to visit the Associated Clubs in the Northern region during the course of the year.

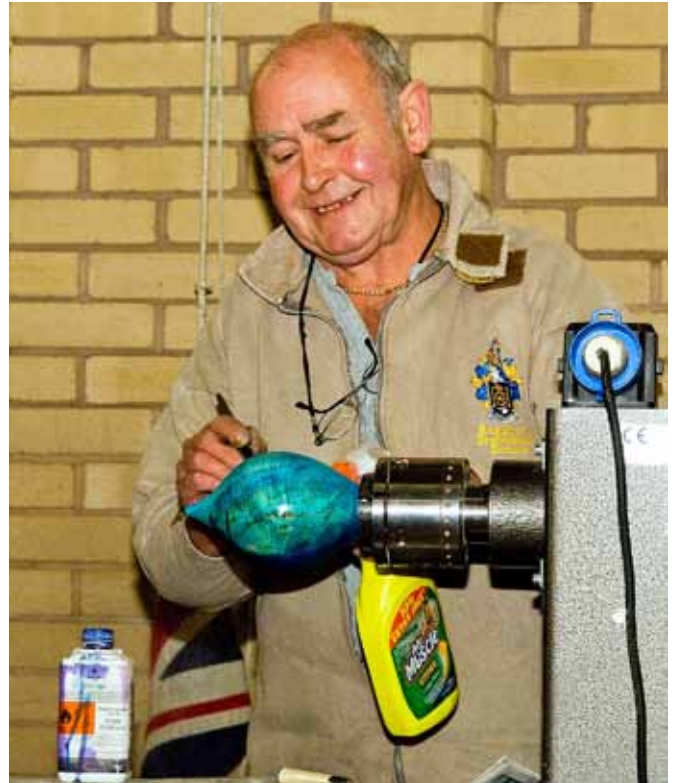
During the May Spring Bank Holiday week, Cumbria Woodturners Association hold their annual display and sale at Bowness on Windermere. This was my first visit to this event and I soon became aware of the interest shown in the work on display and the demonstrations taking place. During my visit I was impressed by the wide ranging variety of items being sold.

In June, I visited the West Pennine club, who meet near Manchester, during a "hands on" evening where several things were going on at the same time. A prominent feature on that evening was the club's particular interest in encouraging young people to take up the tools.

West Cumbria (an affiliated club) occupied a small marquee at the annual steam fair in Distington. Various pieces of work were sold and a great deal of interest in our activity was shown by the visiting public. Some pieces were set aside for sale in aid of the North Air Ambulance Charity

In September the Ayr and District Woodturning Club near Prestwick was visited. On this occasion Rocky Donnachie was the demonstrator. This club meets in the Community Centre, a building which had once been a school. Again there was particular interest in youth training, and it is hoped that an event under the auspices of the Youth Training Programme will be arranged in the North during 2010

Rocky was also demonstrating when I was at Taywood Woodturners near Dundee during a full day event in October. Rocky demonstrated his colouring methods, carefully spraying with meths and drying by fire. This was followed by the making of a triangular bowl (a real knuckle cruncher) and other things too. I felt that my visit to Taywood was a treat. After a day with Rocky one cannot go home without feeling inspired.



Rocky Donnachie demonstrating colouring

The AWGB were once again invited to occupy a space at the North of England Woodworking Show at Harrogate during November. Although there were a few hiccups due to illness and the floods in West Cumbria, which prevented some of our team from attending, we were able to ensure that the AWGB



The Taywood Woodturners enjoying Rocky Donnachie's Demonstration

was well represented. The Association had recently purchased some collapsible tables on which half of the chosen items from the Instant Gallery were displayed, for the duration. We did gain some new members at this show and some members chose to renew their membership for 2010.



Melissa Ashbridge and her Ladies

A highlight of the weekend was a visit to the stand by Melissa Ashbridge one of our junior members from West Cumbria. She had brought along her two "ladies". These were placed among the exhibits and received some favourable comments from our visitors.

Our Thanks are due to Margaret Hawthorne, Roger Busfield, Clive Partridge and Keith Fenton who stepped into the voids left by those who could not make it, and thanks again to Melissa for her "ladies".

Editors note: Thanks also to Rob Cunningham and Melissa Ashbridge for the photographs.

Man: "Haven't I seen you someplace before?"
Woman: "Yeah, that's why I don't go there any-more."

Man: "Is this seat empty?"
Woman: "Yes, and this one will be too if you sit down."

Man: "So, wanna go back to my place?"
Woman: "Well, I don't know. Will two people fit under a rock?"



**John Boddy's
Fine Wood & Tool Store Ltd**

<p>Woodworking Store</p>  <p>Woodworking Courses</p>  <p>Barn Conversion Showroom</p>  <p>Hardwood Flooring</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Self Service Store <input type="checkbox"/> Mail Order Service <input type="checkbox"/> Woodworking Courses <i>woodturning, woodcarving chair caning, gilding 1 to 1 courses by arrangement</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Timber <input type="checkbox"/> Solid Wood Worktops <input type="checkbox"/> PTG Hardwood Flooring <input type="checkbox"/> Solid Oak Door Kits <input type="checkbox"/> Profiles/Architectural Mouldings <input type="checkbox"/> Oak Beams & Scantlings for Restoration Work <input type="checkbox"/> Easy access from A1M, Jct 48 	<p>Profiles, Mouldings & Timber for Joinery</p>  <p>Timber for Barn Conversions</p> 
---	---	--

Opening Times
 Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm Sat 8am – 4pm
 Closed Sundays & Bank Holidays

Riverside Sawmills, Boroughbridge, N. Yorks, YO51 9LJ.
 Tel: 01423 322370 Fax: 01423 323810
 email: info@john-boddys-fwts.co.uk
 web: www.john-boddys-fwts.co.uk

Pepper Mills

Sole distributor of

Cole and Mason

mechanisms and parts

UK craft agent for

CrushGrind

Constable Woodcrafts

Tel/Fax: 01206 299400

e-mail: brianfitzs@aol.com

Simple Extraction Systems

Jim Pearson

The need to protect your lungs from dust has been repeated so often that I think most of us have now got the message loud and clear. However, it is not always possible to use proprietary equipment, either from a cost point of view, (although health should always come before cost), or due to space limitations.

Although my workshop is double garage size, it houses quite a number of machines, including some belonging to Strathclyde Woodturners, the local branch of the AWGB who meet there once a month. It also has quite a low ceiling, and being an old Victorian coach house, it is rather an odd shape.

The Club bandsaw is sited just inside the double sliding doors which can be opened to allow for sawing long and wide timber. The doors also allow the De Walt Chip extractor to be emptied easily.



Photo 1 shows this side of the workshop with the bandsaw and belt sander, both of which produce large volumes of dust, the De Walt and also my small Axminster 330 lathe. I have carried out a number of modifications to this lathe. I really like it and I tend to use it more than my Wadkin Bursgreen or the Club Wivamac. The doors can be opened in good weather, or, if it is raining I have a polycarbonate sheet which can be inserted between the doors giving a full height, two-foot wide window. At the top of the picture you can just see the dust filter.

As I have said, the ceiling is rather low, and it would be difficult to mount any of the proprietary filters close to the main dust producing machines. In addition, these machines are rather noisy. Yes, I know, the saw is noisy as is the De Walt, but it is advisable to keep the dust extractor running long after the other machines have been switched off. One has only to see the amount of dust in a ray of sunlight to appreciate this. Although they are not very powerful, ceiling fans are almost silent, and they do not require much height, and as B & Q had a sale on, I thought I would see how effective this three-speed model would be.



Photo 2 shows the fan mounted on a sheet of plywood screwed to the ceiling joists. The four pieces of wood are spacers which allow a 1 metre square of 50mm weldmesh to be mounted, just clear of the fan, shown in **photo 3**. The weldmesh has the edges turned up slightly to give it a bit of rigidity.



Photo 4 shows a second piece of 50mm weldmesh with a 1 metre square of filter material, which gets sandwiched as shown in **photo 5**. The material I used is **G4 Proprep*** 20mm thick blue and white polyester fibre, which is used in spray booths, drying cabinets and air conditioning units. It does not have the smallest micron rating, but it certainly traps a lot of

dust. The specification claims 476gm/m² dust holding capacity, with a 92.1% arrestance.

Cleaning is easily carried out with a vacuum cleaner. This is best done with the fan running, as any dust dislodged is instantly sucked back up again. **Photo 6** shows this operation and gives some indication of the amount of dust trapped.



For those interested in technicalities I like to think this is an application of boundary layer attachment, or the 'Coanda Effect', named after Romanian discoverer Henri Coandă, who was the first to understand the practical importance of the phenomenon for aircraft development and which in this instance, is the tendency of the air stream to attach itself to the ceiling and down the walls before returning to the filter laden with all the dust in the atmosphere! All I know is that despite its low power rating the fan and filter work extremely well.

So much for the dust in the atmosphere, now I wanted to try and capture as much as possible, as close as possible, to the source producing it.

The DeWalt DW 60 extractor is driven by a ½ HP motor. It is rated at 500 m³/minute against 100mm water head. Not the most powerful machine available, but, hey, it was only £25 second hand when bought a few years ago, and it has a 5" inlet for which I was gifted about three metres of clear flexible hose.

The bandsaw is a Hammer N4500 with a 12" depth of cut. We use a 3tpi wide set skip tooth blade for converting timber for turning. This produces a lot of sawdust. There is a 100mm extraction outlet just below the lower guides, and another at the bottom of the cabinet. Although not an industrial machine, it is not a bad saw, however the lower guides tended to get clogged with sawdust. There is a newer model which has a much better guide arrangement.

Initially the end of the extractor hose was hung onto the top outlet, but in order to try to keep the guides as clear as possible, I made up a wooden box which covers the top outlet and extends up to the lower guides. This is shown in **photo 7** and simply clips over



a small piece of aluminium channel screwed to the saw casing. When this box is in place it is not possible to tilt the saw table. It can be removed in a couple of seconds if required, but it never is, as I do not like working with the table tilted. This box arrangement is very successful, keeping the guides much clearer than before, and allowing hardly any sawdust down into the bottom of the machine. The lower extraction outlet is never used.



Photos 8 & 9 show the end of the hose which has a small wooden flange attached. This simply slips into the slot on the bottom of the wooden box.

For sanding on the lathe, I have made up wooden

hoods with a slot to take the hose end flange. **Photo 10** shows this on the Wadkin, clipped to a broomstick stand, and **photo 11** shows it on the small Axminster.



area. It has its own hood which can be swung to whichever area needs the extraction, **photo 13**.



I also have a small planer and a thicknesser which are not used very often, but when they are used, they produce copious amounts of shavings. Both are fitted with similar wooden slots and as they are mounted on wheels, they can be wheeled within easy reach of the 5" suction hose.

Swapping the hose from machine to machine takes only a couple of seconds. It is much more flexible than fixed piping, waste gates etc., and it allows all machines to be repositioned easily, and moved completely out of the way if access through the doors is required.

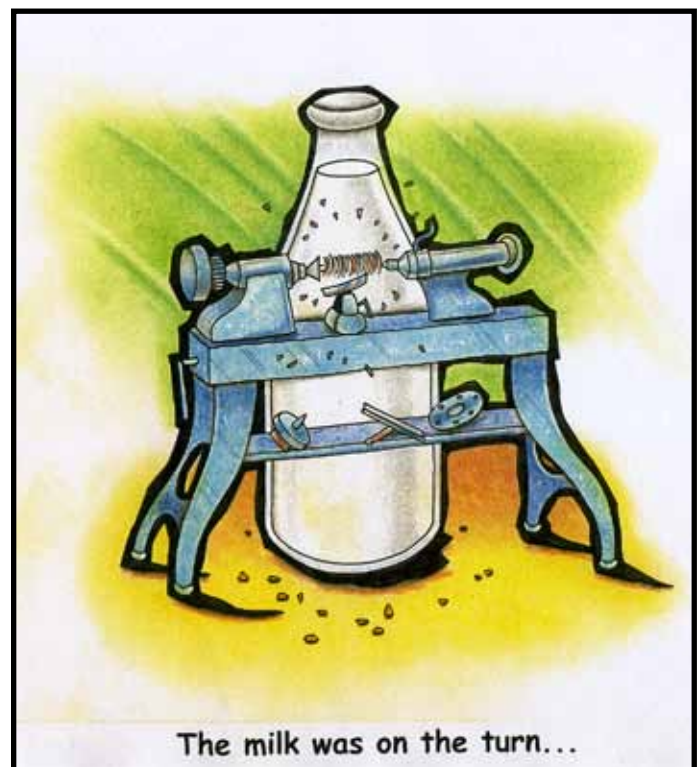
*Proprep blue and white polyester fibre - 476 g/m²
 - dust-holding capacity - G4 - Filter classification - 92.1% - arrestance - 250 g/m² - dry weight - 20mm
 - thickness - 1 x 20-meters roll size

On this one, pulling a flap over allows shavings to be sucked up from the bench top, shown in **photo 12**.



Slipping the hose off the hood allows the shavings to be vacuumed quickly off the floor. One day I'll get round to clipping a broom handle to the hose to let me do this standing up straight!

The belt sander is another machine which produces a vast amount of dust. This has a different drum diameter on each end, in addition to the flat sanding



A Selection of Gallery Pieces

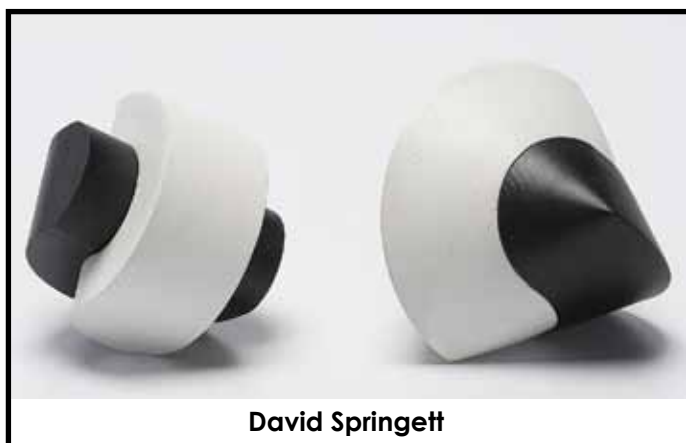
Photographed by Charles Sharpe

A further selection of the pieces selected to be part of the AWGB touring exhibition from autumn 2009 to Spring 2010.

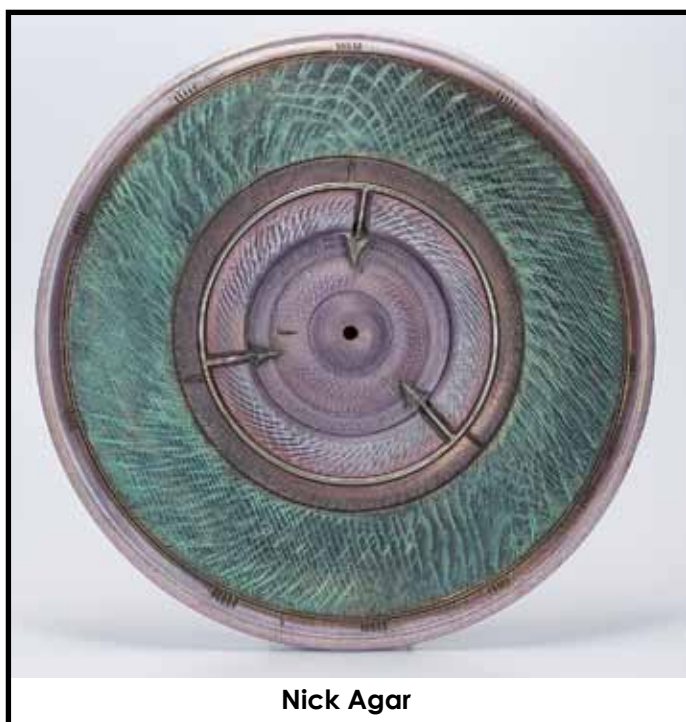




Pablo Nemzoff



David Springett



Nick Agar

MEMBER TRAINING WORKSHOPS

(There is a £20 fee on all of these workshops)

Hollow form techniques & design

The Mill, Portishead, Nr Bristol

March 27th

Tutors: Mark Hancock & Mark Sanger

Box making techniques

Crow Valley Woodturners, Cwmbran

May 15th

Tutor: Chris Eagles

Thin wall hollow form techniques

5 Well Bank, Crook, County Durham

August 14th

Tutor: Andrew Hall

YOUTH TRAINING WORKSHOPS

(Age 11 - 18 as at 1st January)

Workshop health & safety.

Basic spindle & bowl techniques

The Mill, Portishead, Nr Bristol

March 24th - 25th

10 places (£10 fee)

Tutors: Mark Hancock, Mark Sanger,
Mary Ashton, Frans Brown & Tich Renee

Workshop health & safety.

Basic spindle & bowl techniques

Crow Valley Woodturners, Cwmbran

July 17th

6 places (£5 fee)

Tutors: Mark Sanger, Peter Bradwick &
Gordon Rich

Workshop health & safety.

Various projects & techniques

5 Well Bank, Crook, County Durham

July 24th - 25th

4 places (£20 fee)

Tutors: Andrew Hall & John Heslop

Further workshops will be announced in
the next issue of Revolutions

Application forms and any further information
can be had from Peter Bradwick,
AWGB training & development officer,
(his contact details are on page three), or
from the AWGB website

Lathe Conversion

Tim Davies

'Revolutions' Issue 90 (September 2009) carried an article by Jim Pearson of Strathclyde Woodturners, detailing his conversion and upgrade of an Axminster M330 lathe to 3 phase with variable speed.

This was just what I was looking for. I have an Axminster AWWSL to use at the club but I am spoiled by my superb Hegner which certainly isn't portable. The trouble with the AWWSL is that it just won't go slowly enough for my needs; its minimum is 600 rpm and whilst I discovered a way of reducing the speed by fiddling in the electronic control box, it lost torque considerably below 500rpm and I could easily stop it with my hand. Otherwise the Axminster AWWSL is a great little lathe and our club, West Midlands Woodturners, and many others use them.

Jim Pearson took a little tracking down, but that's a very amusing story which I will leave others to tell if they dare.

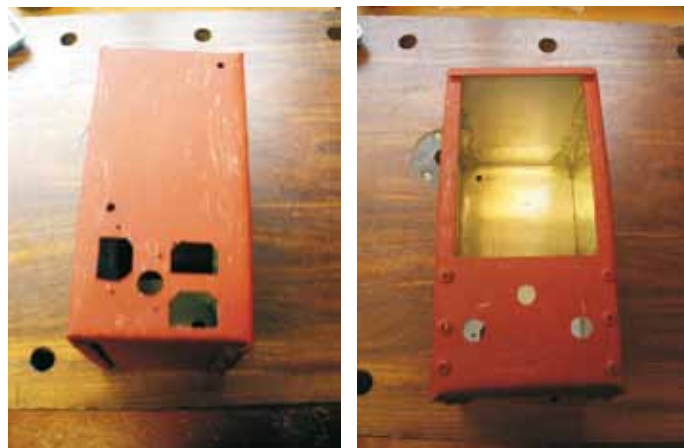
I am not a very bright spark when it comes to understanding the terminology of 3 phase and it must have been very apparent to Jim because he gave me clear advice to get someone who knows what he is doing when putting the bits together.

I shopped around and eventually bought a ½ hp 3 phase, 4 pole, 1500 rpm motor (Frame D71) and an appropriate 230v single phase inverter, from Power Drive Services Ltd (www.inverter.co.uk) at a cost of £205 including vat and delivery. They wired the motor for me.

The motor is larger than the original. In order to mount it in the same position, I made a new mounting plate, altered the lathe table board and made an extension to the original motor pulley because the new motor shaft is too short. A longer drive belt is needed and I tracked one down without too much difficulty. (Megadyne, PJ685mm 3 rib)

The inverter is not dust proof, I could have bought a sealed unit but it is more than twice the cost and it was not difficult to make a box from some aluminium sheet. I copied Jim's model and mounted power inlet and outlet plugs for mains power.

The original AWWSL has a digital spindle speed display which I retained by taking power from one of the outlets and the other is used for a portable light.



There are three controls on the front of the inverter box. A Mains power on/off 2 pole toggle switch – a 24v three position toggle switch for Forward/Off/Reverse – a Potentiometer for speed control.

Making the conversion and putting the 'bits' together isn't a problem, but I was unable to understand the set-up procedure for the Inverter. To that end I had



the invaluable help of Malcolm Thorpe of our Club and Power Drive Services whose help and advice was outstanding.

The lathe is now set up and running. It has excellent torque down to about 90rpm although I don't think I will go that low. There is a small increase in weight but I have devised an unobtrusive wheel kit which fixes to one end of the bed and a handle at the other.

I owe a debt of gratitude to Jim Pearson for his original idea, his guidance and patience. It was worthwhile; I don't think there is a comparable lathe on the market at the combined purchase and conversion cost.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Get Woodworking Live

Alexandra Palace, London
March 12th -14th

Spring Woodworking Show

Yandles, Martock, Somerset
April 9th - 10th

Woodworks@Daventry

Daventry Leisure Centre
April 17th - 18th

West's Woodshow

Selham, between Midhurst &
Petworth, West Sussex
May 7th - 8th

Stiles & Bates Summer Show

Upper Farm, Church Hill, Sutton
June 11th - 12th

Springfield Woodworking & Power Tools Show

Springfields Events Centre,
Camelgate, Spalding
June 11th - 13th

Turn East - organised by Norfolk Woodturners

Fakenham High School
(Ticket only event)
August 14th

Ashley Iles

woodcarving & turning tools
made in the old tradition

With the classic range of tools we now have over 25 new wood turning tools, some exclusive to Ashley Iles. An extended range of carving tools, quality accessories and much, much more!

Nearly 2000 tools in our brand new 48-page catalogue! Send £1.00* postage for an insight into the golden age of tool making.

*£2.00 Mainland Europe and Eire, £3.50 USA and the Rest of the World.



ORDER NOW!

Ashley Iles (Edge Tools) Ltd.
East Kirkby, Spilsby, Lincolnshire PE23 4DD
Telephone 01790 763372 Fax 01790 763010
e-Mail sales@ashleyiles.co.uk, www.ashleyiles.co.uk

Quality is not expensive it's priceless

2009 Catalogue

Hollow Form Masterclass with Rolly Munro

April 15th-16th 2010



**Places strictly limited - allocated on
first come, first served basis.**

Two days hands on; £199.75

**For bookings and further information
please call 01235 511101 (UK)**

The ToolPost

Unit 7 Hawksworth, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 7YG www.toolpost.co.uk

Threaded Acorn Box

Dave Atkinson



1. Use two pieces of wood that will take a thread – any close grained hardwood should suffice. I've used Boxwood for the acorn and Mopane for the cup.



2. Both pieces shown roughed out and ready to go. You'll see the piece of Boxwood has a shoulder as it is just a little bit bigger than the Mopane. I used my 35mm jaws and the Mopane just fits – any less and it would fall out – hence no shoulder. It doesn't matter as long as it runs true.



3. Firstly true up the cylinder and then face off the end – you can see here the small shavings you can get off this sort of timber. I hollow out with my spindle gouge using it as a drill to get the depth and then turning it so the flute is at about 8 – 9 o'clock and then pulling it out. Take care not to let the top wing catch though!



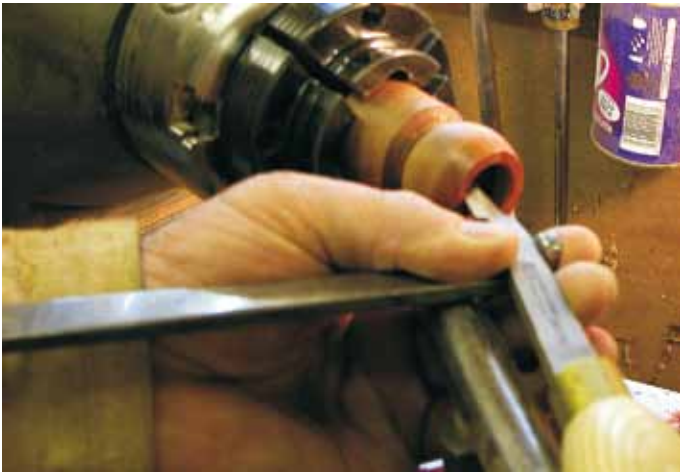
4. I've hollowed out the base and am using a swan neck hollowing too to create an undercut, leaving about 6mm for threads at the opening. Once you have got the inside completed, sand and polish as you won't be able to do it later. I used Melamine on this one.



5. I've roughly shaped the end now and here you can see me creating a small chamfer on the edge. This makes it easy to start the thread. The sides of the opening are parallel - I use spring callipers for this.



6. I use an armrest (see photo 19 for a better view of the tools) and here you can see how the female chaser is held on the armrest. Using a clockwise circular motion the chaser is brought into contact with the chamfer – the lathe speed is about 400 – 450 rpm. A light kiss is all that is needed, keep repeating the motion and 'the kiss' and run the chaser all the way to the end. It is quite easy to do this with this box as there is no back wall to hit.



7. Here's another view of the chaser and its position relative to the box. Don't use the leading tooth of the chaser until the thread is established.



8. Continue with the action and gradually the threads will start to form. Don't think about it! Magic will happen and once the threads have started to form like this bring the chaser round and using the leading tooth you can chase all the way to the end. Once the thread is complete, apply a little wax and use a toothbrush to wipe it through the threads



9. Here I'm just getting an idea of how big the spigot needs be in both length and width. I've also marked off the length of the acorn itself. (Sorry it's a bit blurred)



10. Before I start making a thread, or indeed any spigot on a box I take out the inside. Then if the wood moves, it moves before I create the spigot and the spigot will remain true. Turn the spigot as a slope and bring the base of the acorn up to the revolving spigot. Here you can see the shiny witness mark left by the polished threads. This is the size of the spigot. Turn the spigot parallel to this size and make a small recess at the shoulder so the chaser can be removed before it hits the shoulder. If it hits the shoulder the thread will strip and you'll have to make a new spigot.



11. Set the toolrest about 12mm – 15mm away from the spigot with the left hand end level with where you want the thread to stop – when you get there you lift the chaser away from the thread. Put a small chamfer on the spigot and with the chaser at 45 degrees to the spigot move it in a circular anti-clockwise movement and just kiss the chamfer, keep repeating this motion and the thread will start to form. As it appears gradually move the chaser parallel to the spigot and create the full thread.

Q. What happens if you play a country&western song backwards?

A.The singer gets his wife, house, and his job back!

Q. Why was Cinderella kicked off the football team?

A. She always ran away from the ball!



12. Here the thread is completed and waxed.



13. And the base fits!



14. Now it's a simple matter of shaping and sanding the base and starting to shape the acorn itself.



15. Now for the final thread, using the scrap left in the chuck (having parted the acorn off) create a recess that can be threaded so that the acorn can be finished.



16. Here the threads are just being formed. Note the recess at the back of the area being threaded – this enables the chaser to go to the end of the thread and be removed before it hits the back wall



17. The acorn is screwed into the scrap and then it can be finished and sanded.



18. These are the special tools used in this project – from left to right – the armrest used when forming female threads. The female and then the male chasers, the point tool and finally the relieving tool used to create the recess at the back of the female thread.



19. I use the Beall buffing system (from The Toolpost) on these small boxes. The first stick to be used is on the left – Tripoli which acts as a mild abrasive, the middle an even finer abrasive and lastly on the right carnauba wax. I put the pigtail in a Jacobs chuck which is securely held in my chuck. Only use the area around 7 o'clock on the buffing wheel – and keep tight hold! (otherwise the bits will fly all over the workshop – yes I've done that too!)



20 & 21. Here's the completed item, together and apart.

The Further Ramblings of a Woodturner's Widow.

Bron Simpson

Time passes so quickly when you are enjoying retirement, and it is that time again when I think I should put pen to paper or more accurately, my fingers to the keys.

Jon and I had a very busy time last year, mostly on holiday in various places which brings me to the first odd happening. In April we loaded the car and headed for a three week holiday touring France, Switzerland and Italy. We went by ferry from Dover, but of course, on the way, we paid a short visit to Stiles and Bates. Believe it or not, we ended up with a large box full of timber suitable for some goblet making. Jon, being the skinflint he is, didn't want to pay the postage so we proceeded to haul it all around Europe!

During our stay in Switzerland many of the high Alpine passes were closed either because of an unnatural abundance of snow or for logging operations. We had the pleasure one day of watching a logging lorry driver transfer a huge pile of logs from his lorry to the roadside. The finesse and accuracy he displayed whilst arranging the logs was unbelievable. He made it look so easy, treating the crane on the back of his lorry like an extension of his arms and hands. We were mesmerised and I think secretly Jon would have loved to have had a go himself. In the picture you can see how neat and straight the 200 or so 4 metre logs are arranged and fitted together.



Jon was obviously impressed with a recent Singapore Ball demonstration by Bob Chapman that he has been having a go himself. He first had to make some jigs and tools fit for the job and then began the task of making a perfectly **round** ball. I was a listening ear for all the comments along the way! Next came the marking up of the ball for the drill points. I can assure you that if the ball isn't round (to within 1 mm) it won't work! We then had little experiments of test drilling holes and making points to fit. Eventually



with courage in hand he did it for real and to my amazement it looked really good. He sent a photo to Bob Chapman inviting some comments and was pleased that it was thought to be a good first effort. The sad thing about making something intricate like this is the selling aspect. It sells at a higher price than the general public want to pay because they don't appreciate the time and skill that has gone into it. Requests came in from our daughters about having one for a Christmas present, but I think they all fell on deaf ears.

Jon and I belong to the Northampton U3A (University of the Third Age). Sounds good doesn't it. It's fun doing rambles, and joining in one or two non-academic activities with them.



One particular Tuesday we went to a 'Picnic in the Park' at Delapre Abbey and we were displaying some of Jon's work for people to look at (and actually buy if we were lucky). Amidst gusty winds we arranged our display and settled in for an enjoyable afternoon eating strawberries and cream and chatting to lots of people interested to know more about Jon's interest in wood. People, in general, were enthralled with the feel and tactile quality of the turned items. The toadstools, apples and bottle stoppers went very quickly. An artist was in raptures with his abstract female forms, and someone else was intrigued with a mushroom turned from a Banksia Nut. We couldn't sell any of his Singapore Balls even though everyone was encouraged to pick them up and to try and guess how they had been made. No secrets were given away though. In passing we came across a gentleman who not only lived in our area of Northampton, but

had some interesting wood he wanted to dispose of, so we managed to acquire a good selection of Lemon Wood, Lime, Ash and Kingwood. Not a bad afternoon, we made nearly £60 in delightful surroundings and the rain kept off, almost!

As you may know by now I do go along to our club night sessions and quite often I find myself with an assistant editor's job to do! It can be anything from making sure the newsletter is distributed to everyone on the night and of course encouraging members to make a donation, to my latest task which was taking member's photographs. I was surprised at how bashful some of them were, mind you, there was the odd person, mentioning no names (that would be bad "Manners") who insisted on a better version because his complexion was too red. I do sit by Colin Hovland sometimes, just so I can give him a dig in the ribs if he gets too carried away during a demo. Actually he has been a real good friend to Jon, always being available for a chat if things are not going right with the wood turning activities, and he is only too willing to put an article together for the newsletter. Here I must make a plea to you all to help save the sanity of your club editor, when "going to print" time comes round. **Please** if you have items for the gallery or can write or tell about something you have made or done, pass the information on. No matter what the context is, I am sure it will be more than welcome; I know that it is in our club.

Enough said for now. As you read this, we at Tudor Rose will be heading for a momentous occasion. We are putting on a woodworking event named "Wood-Works @ Daventry" which all takes place over the weekend of 17th and 18th April 2010. We have about ten clubs putting on demonstrations and a display, and a continuous rota of professional demonstrations which will include Gary Rance, Les Thorne, Steve Heeley plus others. Add to that, a dozen or more major traders supporting us, the AWGB and GMC, competitions and a special interests table. So, come and see us in the Saxon suite at Daventry Leisure Centre between 10 and 4 on both days and have a grand day out. Oh, the best bit, its **FREE** entry and **FREE** parking.



Stiles & Bates

Shop



**NEW
Catalogue**

Online shop

Courses



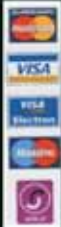
Blanks



Planks



**Lathes, Chucks,
Tools, Machines,
Pen Making Kits,
Accessories etc.**



Supplying woodturners and woodworkers

Knowledgeable and friendly service backed up with a comprehensive range of blanks, planks, lathes, chucks, machinery, tools and accessories.

Do call in, call for a mail order catalogue or visit our website to see our selected range from Record Power, Robert Sorby, Chestnut Products, Craft Supplies, Crown, GMC Books, Liberon, Microclene, Pen Supplies, Planet, Rustins and others.

www.stilesandbates.co.uk

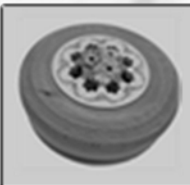
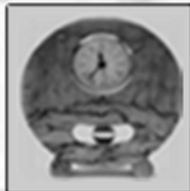
Upper Farm, Church Hill, Sutton, Dover, Kent. CT15 5DF
Telephone and Fax: 01304 366 360

MEANTIME DESIGN

Sales Line
01386 854991

*High quality products for the
woodturner at extremely
competitive prices*

We stock a full range of insert
clocks, insert watches,
skeleton clocks, 40 & 100 year
calendars, pen kits, paper knives,
cheese blades, lamp kits, bottle
stoppers, pot pourri tops, box
hinges, LED tealights.....



Check out our full range of
products at:
www.meantimedesign.com or
visit our trade shop at:
Unit 1, Willersey Bus. Park,
Willersey, Nr. Broadway,
Worcestershire. WR12 7PR

www.meantimedesign.com

Sovereign by Robert Sorby

Sovereign from Robert Sorby is a superbly engineered system which should form an integral part of every woodturner's armoury. That is because it has been designed by a tool manufacturer with the turner's need for comfort and balance uppermost in mind. Sovereign is made to the same exacting standards as all other tools bearing the Robert Sorby hallmark.

Manufactured in our factory in Sheffield, the Sovereign handle offers a unique blend of features:

- comfortable, non-slip Sorby grip
- hollow steel shaft allows tool length to be varied
- high grade aluminium head and cap to aid vibration damping
- all tools secured by means of brass topped screws
- side handle available as an optional extra for greater control
- end cap can be unscrewed allowing counterweights to be fitted to internal thread

The Sovereign handle is available in both 10" and 22" lengths.
There is also a coupling to link two handles together.



Each handle will accept a 1/2" shank tool. But Sovereign is not just a handle it is a total system. It comes complete with 1/2" and 1/4" collet adaptors allowing tools with these shank diameters to be fitted securely. That means it will take an array of spindle and bowl gouges. To add to the versatility we have also adapted a couple of highly popular hollowing tools - the hollowmaster and multi tip hollowing tool. These are now available in three lengths and without handle to make the Sovereign system one very practical and flexible combination.



To learn more about the Sovereign System visit www.robert-sorby.co.uk where you will also find a brief video clip.

Available from authorised Robert Sorby dealers worldwide.

Robert Sorby, Abul Road, Sheffield S19 6PA England. Tel: +44 (0) 114 225 0700
E-mail: sales@robert-sorby.co.uk Web site: www.robert-sorby.co.uk

**QUANTITY
DISCOUNTS
AVAILABLE**

Lincolnshire Woodcraft Supplies

**Easy to find
Easy to park
Only 2 mins
from A1**

Over 60 timbers in stock, in boards, blocks, discs and squares.

In English and Imported hardwoods.

Also available, Vitex abrasive, turning tools and accessories.

Catalogue available, please send six first class stamps.

Or you can visit our website at www.lincolnshirewoodcraft.co.uk

Open: 9.30am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 4.30pm Monday to Friday
9.30am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 4.00pm Saturday

For a fast and efficient mail order service with expert advice contact

ROBIN STOREY

The Old Saw Mill, Burghley Park, London Road, Stamford. Lincolnshire, PE9 3JX
Telephone: 01780 757825

T & J Tools

Specialist Abrasives & Sharpening Tools



TJT Diamond products

**5"/127mm Diamond Coated
Disc (Edge (10mm) & Face)**



**Double Sided
Diamond Credit Card
(fine/medium) File**



**8" Diamond
Wheel for
Tormek**

**Diamond Honing Rod
tapered 10mm - 4mm
Coated length 155mm)**

**Diamond Honing Rod
Straight 8mm & 6mm
(Coated Length 115mm)**

TJT Abrasives

**Abronet 70mm x
125mm Grits 80 to 600**



Norton Abrasives

**R222 Cloth Backed 100mm x 1m or 50m,
Rotolo Foam Backed 115mm X 140mm
segments (25m roll or 7 seg packs) Grits 500
to 1500.**

**Norgrip Velcro Backed 115mm x 1m or 25m
Grits 120/180/240/320/400**

TJT Grip Discs

**Grits: 80 to 600,
Packs 10, 25, 50, & 100
Sizes 55mm & 85mm
(for use with 50mm & 77mm arbors)**



See our Web Shop or Call for our latest value products & prices

Order Now!! -WEB Shop: www.t-jtools.co.uk or Phone: 01788 890121

Axminster "Strictly Woodturning"

Reg Hawthorne

In October of last year Axminster Power Tools organised a woodturning event with the aim of bringing fun into woodturning. The event was held mainly in school premises in Axminster. The turners were Bert Marsh, Nick Agar, Les Thorne, Phil Irons, Tracey Owen, Jason Breach, Colwyn Way, Stuart King, Tony Rea, Mark Hancock, Dave Reeks and Gary Rance.

There were trade stands for Axminster suppliers and the AWGB were invited to have a stand with some of the Seminar 2009 Selected 50.



Martin Lawrence manning the AWGB stand

All the above turners provided rotations in several classrooms over the two days, however the fun event took place in the Guildhall on Friday evening. Two lathes were set up on stage and a team of four judges sat at the back of the stage providing comment and marks in 'Strictly Come Dancing' style. It was difficult at times to relate the comments to the turnings as hip movement seemed a prime consideration for one of



Stuart King enjoys receiving his trophy

the judges (Jason's wife). Delegates were also given a vote on who went through to the semi-final. The tasks were to turn a vase in 8 minutes, the semi-final was a goblet in 8 minutes and the final was a lidded box in 8 minutes.

The finalists were Stuart King and Nick Agar with Stuart winning the trophy, although his various costumes during the competition probably played a part in swaying the judges -one was continually letting it be known that he was not above being bribed.

Well done Axminster for organising this fun event.

A Plea from the Editor

May I make a request of all the contributors, and would-be contributors, to this newsletter that use 'Microsoft Office' to create their text? Will you all please check the dictionary that your copy of 'Word' is set to, you will find this in the bottom left hand corner of your screen when you are in 'Word'? Ideally it will say 'English (UK)', if it does please read no further.

For those of you who see 'English (US)' will you please be good enough to change it as a favour to your hard pressed editor and his long suffering proof reader. For those of you who are not as computer literate as some of us and shy away from altering anything on a computer, details of how to accomplish this task are printed here for your assistance. I don't have access to a machine running 'Office 97' but I am assuming that it is similar to the procedure for 'Office 2003'.

Office 2003

In 'Word' click on the **Tools** tab

Click on **Options**

Click on the **Spelling & Grammar** tab

In the **Dictionary list** box, click on **CUSTOM.DIC (default)**

Click **Modify**

In the **Language** box, select **English (UK)** from the drop down menu

Click **OK** in each successive box

Close 'Word'

When you re-open 'Word' it should now show the dictionary as 'English (UK)'

Office 2007

In 'Word' click on the **'Office'** logo in the top left hand corner of the screen

Click on the **Word Options** box

It should default to the **Popular** section

Click on the **Language Settings** box

Under the setting **Primary editing language**

Select **English (UK)** from the drop down menu

Click **OK** and then **Yes** in the following window

Close all remaining windows and 'Word'

When you re-open 'Word' it should now show the dictionary as 'English (UK)'

Thank you for taking the time and trouble to do this.

A Hollow Laugh

Lionel Pringle

The set piece for my club's Christmas competition was a Hollow Form. Simple enough you may say, not for me it wasn't, I don't actually do hollow forms, they have never really lit my fire and consequently I had neither the tools nor the inclination required to make one. However not wishing to be outdone I thought about the matter long and hard and came up with what I think must be the ultimate in the genre. It consists of a neck and a base which are joined together by four pieces of copper wire, with lots of open space in between. I fail to see how anybody can take it much further, my piece was as about as hollow as you can get without resorting to levitation.



Photo 1 A nice piece of Macrocarpa attached to my chuck and roughed out, this is the neck of my 'hollow form'.



Photos 2, 3 & 4 Starting the 'hollowing' process.



Photos 5 & 6 Working on the other side and shaping the neck.



Photo 7 This shows a guide line around the perimeter of the neck, this prevents the drill from wandering. This is turned away after the holes are drilled.



Photo 8 Suitable sized drill bit with insulation tape depth stop. It is necessary to ensure that all the holes are the same depth as to have different depths would alter the effective length and thereby the shape of the wire. Ensure also that there is enough wood left to clean up and finish off the inside of the neck.



Photo 9 Drilling the holes, using the dividing head on the lathe to quarter the piece and using the tool rest as a guide for the drill.



Photo 10 Doing the basic shaping of the outside of the top side of the neck, and cleaning off the drill guide line.



Photo 11 Cleaning up the inside and 'hollowing' down into the neck.



Photo 12 The neck has been parted off and secured in a jam chuck made in the timber that remained.



Photo 13 The neck completed and the aperture formed.



Photo 14 The completed neck section.



Photo 15 The base element under construction, the process for drilling the holes is essentially the same as for the neck.



Photo 19 The finished base. Both pieces are finished with several coats of liquid paraffin.

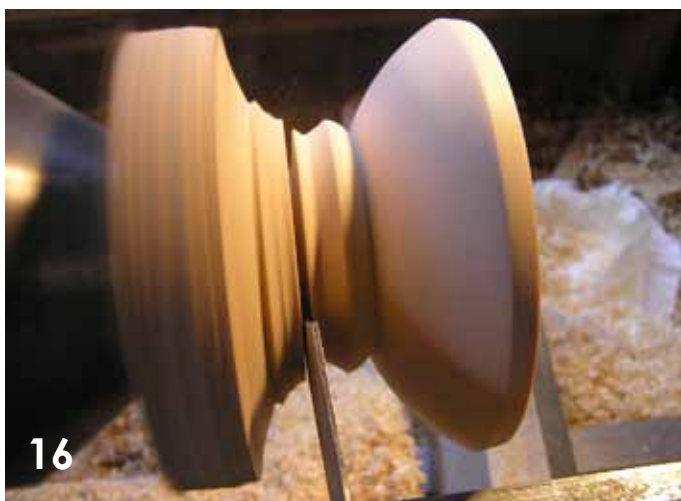


Photo 16 The base is being parted off.



Photos 17 & 18 The bottom being cleaned up whilst held in a jam chuck.



Photo 20 The completed piece. I'm afraid that I didn't actually take this photograph soon enough, a little too much handling has rather spoilt the curves of the wires, but you get the idea I'm sure.

Strangely enough I didn't achieve any prize, in fact I am not altogether sure that everybody saw the joke.

Definition of the word 'Adult': A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.

Lawyers - 99.9 percent of them give the rest of the profession a bad name.

W.L.West & Sons Ltd est 1865
 European & Exotic Hardwoods ♦ Australian Burrs
 Woodturning Blanks ♦ Timber for Carvers
 Wide range of Woodturning tools

New discount rates available
 AWGB members (with valid membership card)
 5% discount on spend of £30 or more
 applies to turning blanks & square edge
 timber only. Excludes exotics & Australian burrs

WOODTURNING COURSES with **GARY RENOUF RPT**
 in our purpose built workshop

Shop - Mon - Fri 8.00am - 5.00pm
 Saturday (Nov - Mar) 9.30am - 1.30pm
 Saturday (April - Oct) 9.30am - 4.00pm
 Location - Just off the A272 Midhurst/Petworth road
 (Opposite the Halfway Bridge Inn)

Selham, Petworth, West Sussex, GU28 0PJ
 t: 01798 861611 f: 01798 861633
 enthusiast@wlwest.co.uk www.wlwest.co.uk

REMINDER

*SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2010
 ARE NOW OVERDUE*

*This will be your last issue of
 Revolutions if you fail to renew.*

*Send your renewal form to the
 Membership Secretary*

*David Atkinson
 87 Whirley Road
 Macclesfield
 Cheshire
 SK10 3JW*

**Beat negative returns, and make long term
 NO REGRET INVESTMENTS**



Completeness

The most robust, smoothest, quietest,
 & vibration free lathe available today.

FREE DVD & 30 page information pack will
 show you all the unique features of the VB36,
 and how it will exceed your expectations &
 expand your turning horizons

Hegner UK Ltd

Tel: 01323 442440 Fax: 01323 840969 Email: sales@hegner.co.uk

*Supported by
 the finest array
 of Multistar tooling*



*Slick & quick
 snap in - snap
 out Arbors, plus
 Articulated Arms
 for fit-any-shape
 flexibility*

**FASLOC
 for the
 small stuff**

RING TODAY FOR INFO PACKS:

REV-VB: for full details on the VB36 Lathe
 REV-MS: for Multistar lathe equipment
 REV-AF: for Abrasive & Finishing products

Units 1 & 2 North Crescent . Diplocks Way
 Hailsham . East Sussex BN27 3JF



www.camvac.co.uk

Don't use your lungs as a dust filter.

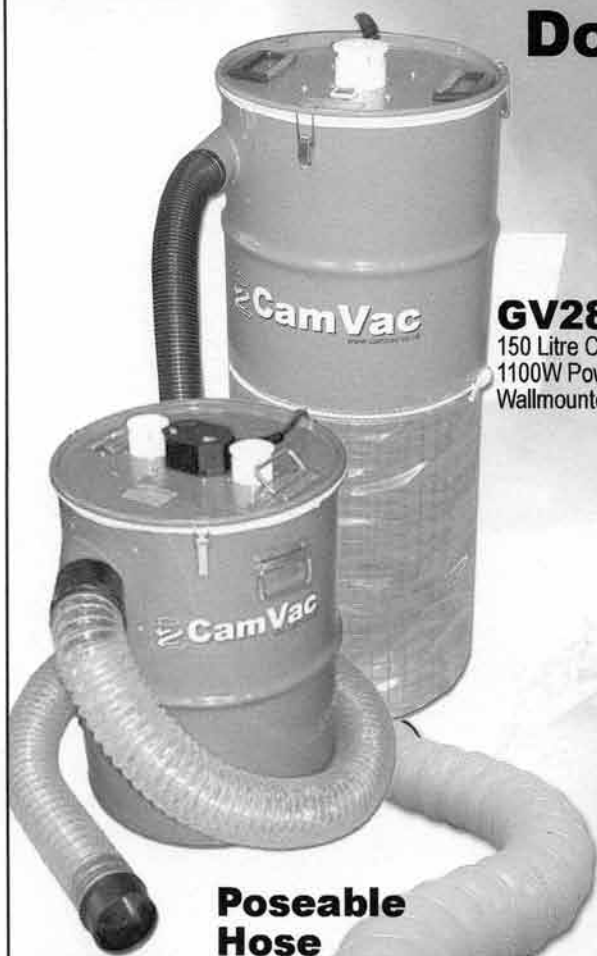
Workshop machining - especially power sanding on a lathe - can produce very high levels of wood dust and debris, but it is the particles you *can't* see (under 5 microns) which pose the greatest danger to your health.

These particles will not only pass straight through the filters of poor quality extractors, but will also bypass our bodies natural defences, and lodge themselves deep into our tissues and lungs. Most worrying of all is the carcinogenic (cancer-causing) nature of some wood dusts.

This is why quality filtration is so vitally important, and it's why we specify all of our machines with triple-stage filtration capable of trapping 0.5 micron particles.

Benefits of the Camvac System:

- ▶ Triple-Stage 0.5 micron filtration.
- ▶ Large capacity machines from 36 to 200 litres.
- ▶ Powerful, high-pressure suction deals with large chips or fine dust.
- ▶ Robust & dependable British engineering.
- ▶ Full range of ducting accessories, reducers & mobility options, to allow you to place all that suction just where it's needed!



GV286W
150 Litre Capacity
1100W Power
Wallmounted

Poseable Hose

GV286
36 Litre Capacity
1100 or
2200W Power



Dust Collection Kit

dust extraction for woodworkers

Millers Close, Fakenham, Norfolk NR21 8NW
tel 01328 851407 email sales@camvac.co.uk web www.camvac.co.uk