

Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Issue No 146

September 2023



www.awgb.co.uk

A Company Limited by Guarantee - Company Number 8135399
Registered Charity Number 1150255

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Further information, including discounts, on the Corporate Members is available on the AWGB website.

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Revolutions

Copy deadline for the next edition of Revolutions
1st November 2023

The AWGB is a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity. It is administered by a group of elected Trustees who are also Directors of the Company. The Trustees meet at least twice each year and at the AGM. When they meet together they are known collectively as the "The Executive". Additionally, there are a number of people who assist the Trustees in their duties. These people are not elected and are known as "Volunteers".

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DATA PROTECTION

Your personal details are held on computer for the use of the AWGB. We only use this information to run the organisation. If you would like to know what information we hold and how we use it, please contact the Secretary.

Chairman's Notes

Russell Gibbs

I write this as August dawns and unusually I am wearing thick woollies to keep warm, at least it's good training for the winter months, hopefully the Jetstream will change position and we will get some decent weather to enjoy our gardens and sheds before the year end arrives.

In June I accompanied Paul Otter the Northern Representative at the Royal Cheshire Show, it was a great event with many non-woodturners interested in the stand, both the exhibits and our woodturning demonstration. In addition there were lots of current and dormant woodturners who also enjoyed seeing the stand and discussing the way forward, we managed to direct them to their local clubs and hopefully they will swell the ranks. We found that making apples was a suitable demonstration as it was relatively quick which kept the audience with us, more complex demonstrations may be suitable for woodturning events but for general public events I would say they need to be short and sharp.

I was very honoured to be asked to attend the Great Yorkshire Show in Harrogate in July to judge the woodturning competition. I met with the woodturning steward Darrel Rushworth and also a number of old friends from the Yorkshire clubs who were meeting and greeting the public and demonstrating on a small lathe. I undertook my duties and announced the results and am happy to say that I survived the proclamation's and was even offered a cup of tea (Yorkshire that is).

Following the resignation of our Vice Chairman, Dave Atkinson, on health grounds, our Trade and Business Officer Roger Cutler immediately stepped forward to temporarily fill the post on the proviso that he would not move forward to the Chairmans post when I leave after the next AGM. However following a holiday cruise to the Arctic he was clearly affected by the Northern Lights and has kindly agreed that he will take the post of Chairman next year. This obviously means that we need a body to cover his Trade and Business post, more begging later.

Many of you will have seen that Dave Atkinson passed away suddenly in the middle of July and there have been many words of kindness on our Book of Remembrance page on the website. I attended the service at the crematorium and was proud to see the large number of turners amongst his friends and family. His service was deemed to be a celebration of his life and he was given a good send-off with people travelling the length and breadth of the country to be there.

Life continues to move swiftly forward and the first weekend in August will see Roger Cutler and myself at the Chestnut Woodturning Weekender in Heywood, Greater Manchester, where we will have hopefully met with many of you and maybe signed up a few more to join us.

Continual requests for members to join the executive clearly works as I'm pleased to say that we have recently co-opted Richard Peers as the Regional Representative South East and he is currently contacting clubs in his region to introduce himself, I hope that you will give him a warm welcome and use him as a conduit to put your view forward to the

Executive. Kate Kitchen has agreed to look after our social media sites and is currently having the access to the sites handed over to her from Steve Gordon who has been doing the job in addition to his Training role. As mentioned previously we need more of you to step forward to ensure that the Association can continue to function and flourish, THIS MEANS YOU !



We have announced the dates and demonstrators for the AWGB Seminar, the 4th to 6th October 2024 and the booking systems are due to open by the time you read this. There is an advertisement both in this magazine and on the website with all the details so don't forget BOOK EARLY to get the best

price. If you haven't attended before talk to friends who have and I feel sure that you will be inspired to come along to a fabulous event.

The Training schedule continues to offer free courses to members and if there isn't one that suits you then inform the Training & Development Officer using the form on the website <https://www.awgb.co.uk/training-development-enquiry/> and we will investigate instigating one.

I will remind you again that 19th October 2023, a date for your diary, the Worshipful Company will be running their Competitions at Pewterers' Hall, London some of which are of course open to AWGB members, this is a great opportunity to not only win prizes but to also offer your works for sale at a prestigious event. Prizes will be presented at the end of the public opening on 19th October 2023.

Update on Gabriel's fundraising heroics



A few weeks ago in the 'Charities in Focus' section of the regular newsletter from the Turners company they featured the unique fundraising efforts of Gabriel Clark, grandson of former PW partner Robert Clark. Gabriel has raised thousands of pounds for charity by carving and raffling his magnificent wooden bowls, including a 'Bowl for Ukraine' which raised more than £250,000 for Save the Children. He has now been nominated as one of three finalists for JustGiving's 'Teen Fundraiser of the Year'. The winner is decided by public vote - please see the link for details - <https://page.justgiving.com/awardsvoting2023>. Keep up the fantastic work, Gabriel.



Advertising in Revolutions

	Current cost per edition
Whole Page	£110
½ Page	£55
¼ Page	£28
There is a 10% discount for the whole year.	

**With Effect from 1st January 2024,
the cost of advertising in
Revolutions will be:**

	New cost per edition
Whole Page	£120
½ Page	£60
¼ Page	£30
There is a 10% discount for the whole year.	

Individuals as well as Corporate Members
can advertise in Revolution,
e.g. items for sale, training offered, etc.

Revolutions

We can deliver Revolutions in both paper and electronic format. All members we have email addresses for will initially receive both formats.

If you are happy to receive both formats, you don't need to do anything but if you would prefer just the paper version, just the electronic version or neither, and that if you want to change your preference to email John Peachey - datamanager@awgb.co.uk with your choice, but if you are happy with things as they are you need do nothing.

Pocket or Mini Saxophone

Colin Hovland



There is only a minimal amount of woodturning involved in the making of this item. A straight grained hardwood blank 12"x 1 1/2" square, a piece of copper pipe, 5/8" diameter, and an Alto Sax mouthpiece, and a chromatic tuner, which can be obtained from a well-known mail-order company. Other items/tools needed are a planetary lathe steady, a long auger 7/8" diameter. A Forstner bit to start the hole, as the auger has only one cutting wing. If your chuck has deep jaws like the Vicmarc shark jaws, or the O'Donnell jaws, or similar makes, I recommend you make a wooden collet to hold the blank for drilling without marking the blank.



With the blank mounted between centres, rough it down to 1 3/8", plane it straight and smooth with the skew chisel, sand and seal the wood. At this stage, I decided to use the long hole shell auger to drill through, ensuring less risk of the 7/8" auger going off centre. Next, remove it and attach the chuck



and insert the blank into the wood collet, and then into the chuck. You will now need to fit the lathe steady, bring the tailstock up to centre the blank before adjusting to fit. Remove the tailstock and replace the revolving centre with a drill chuck. Add the Forstner bit and start the hole, drilling deep enough to accept the cutting wing of the auger.



Remove the Forstner bit and replace with the auger. Advance the auger cutting wing into the hole before starting the lathe, and each time you withdraw to clear the chips, make sure not to withdraw it completely. You will need to drill very slowly, do not rush this. There are a number of choices here. You can drill straight through, or go halfway, then reverse the blank and drill from the other end, or you can drill to within one inch of the end. Then reverse and drill a hole to accept the size of the copper pipe. If you drill through, you will need to turn a piece of wood one inch long, to glue into the end, itself having a hole to fit the copper pipe.

When you have your tube ready with the insert glued in, put a length of masking tape on and draw a centre line along

the length. The copper pipe will need to have a bend of thirty degrees or so; or leave it straight if you prefer. One end of the pipe will be pushed one inch into the tube, and the other end will need a wrap or more of plastic tape to insert into the mouthpiece hole to make it airtight.

Once you have established how much to cut off the pipe; mine is showing about $1\frac{3}{8}$ " inch between the mouthpiece and the tube. This will then be it's final position to maintain accurate tuning. Wet the mouthpiece reed, switch the tuner on, and blow to vibrate the reed, and check to see what note shows on the tuner. You need it to be a Bb (B flat) note. It will most likely be too low, so you will need to remove the pipe from the tube, then cut off a little from the other end. My tube length finished at $11\frac{3}{4}$ ". You may need to do this a few times. Once this is correct, then cut off a little more to make the note slightly sharp, because when you drill the finger holes, it will drop back again to Bb. Now we come to the marking out of the finger holes. When I made my first sax, the placings were not right, so a second tube was made, and I will give my measurements for that.



The hole in the bottom end of the tube is the fundamental note; Bb, the key note of the instrument. The measurements of the finger holes are all taken from the bottom end of the tube. The first hole up from the bottom is $2\frac{5}{8}$ " 9mm drill bit, 2nd is 4" 9mm bit, 3rd is $4\frac{7}{8}$ " 8mm bit, 4th is 6" 9mm bit, 5th is, $7\frac{1}{4}$ " 9mm bit, 6th is, $8\frac{1}{2}$ " 9mm bit, and at the back of the tube mark the thumb hole position, down from the top of the tube, $2\frac{5}{8}$ " 8mm drill bit. Mark the relevant notes just

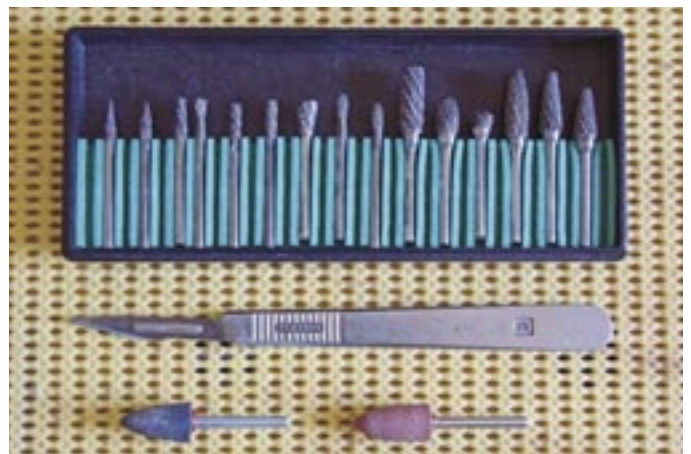
below each hole position. From the fundamental note Bb, the notes are: C, D, Eb, F, G, A. These are your reference for checking the tuning, and for making small adjustments later.



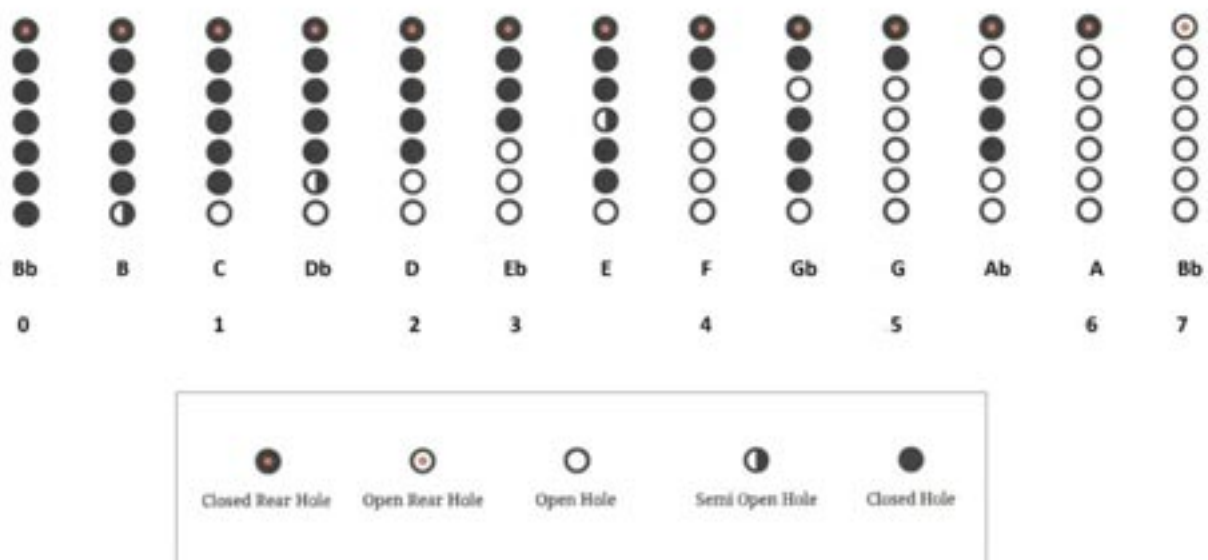
Finally, I finished my instrument with three coats of Shellac, leaving each to dry for a day between coats.

Adjusting The Tuning

In order to bring the instrument into correct tuning, you will need a chromatic tuner. With all the finger holes drilled, you now need to switch on the tuner and with all finger holes, and thumb holes closed, blow into the mouthpiece and you will see the bottom note on the tuner, which will be Bb. Now lift your finger off the lowest hole and blow. The note will probably sound a little lower than C. The hole will need to be slightly enlarged. You can use a Scalpel to undercut the hole in an upward direction to bring the pitch higher. I also use a small Proxon drill with rotary burs, but do not start the drill until the cutter is inside the hole, and also switch it off before removing it. This process is repeated for the remainder of the playing holes, in order from the bottom to the top.



Finger Placement Chart



Duck Race Event

Barry Fisher

The Black Country Woodturners were invited to take part in the Mary Stevens Hospice Duck Race Event which was held on the 9th July 2023 at the Waterfront area of Merry Hill, Dudley. The Hospice has been our nominated charity for a number of years now, we as a group attend all events that the charity puts on, this was an additional one for the club where we put up four gazebos to display our turned items.



In addition to individual members selling their own items we always have a charity table that is filled with members turned items that they produce for the charity, these are then kept at a reasonable price so as to get as much money for the charity as possible. In addition to the turned items a couple of the members' wives also took part with small hand-made home furnishings and cards for all occasions.

During the day we also put on a raffle for a set of Oak skittles and balls which had been produced by the club members during one of the open days with a good many members taking turns to turn them, again the proceeds are going to Mary Stevens Hospice.



The day went well with very good weather, until the duck race was started with the winner taking home £100.00. The event went down very well and put our name out there with interest from some prospective members. The charity made a good amount of money for themselves, which is very much needed.



Certificate in Woodturning training course

Venue	Shawsburn Woodturning Studio, ML9 3RG
Tutor	Darren Crisp
Dates	September 23rd & 24th October 14th & 15th November 4th & 5th November 25th & 26th

Please contact the course venue for
more information and details on
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Purpleheart Bowl

Harry Rodwell

Hello, my name is Harry Rodwell and I am currently a 16 year old sixth form student. I completed this project independently at school using their Union Graduate lathe. The entire inspiration behind this bowl was due to my family having a similar Purpleheart bowl in our kitchen which my father turned some years ago. I liked the grain and colour so decided to make my own. Obtaining the blank was hard but eventually I found one in a local turning shop for less than £10.



1. I started off by marking the center of the blank and getting it onto the lathe. I then removed the top layer of wax and got the bowl trued-up using only a Spindle Roughing gouge.

2. With the bowl centered I had to decide on a shape, I didn't want anything too outlandish but not too boring either. I decided to opt for a tapered design with a flared bottom.



3. After I completed the outside shape. I moved onto the inside of the bowl, I drilled the center with a 12mm bit so I could fit the bowl gouge in comfortably. I also had to run over the outside of the bowl after I turned it around as it wasn't perfectly centered.



4. I didn't make the bowl particularly deep so catches were not too prevalent and I made a gentle curve on the inside of the bowl, as opposed to steep sides. For the inside I used only a Bowl gouge and a curved edge Scraper for some of the finer details.



5. After I had the rough shape completed and all catches removed. I started sanding at 80 grit (as the chisels were not particularly sharp, so getting a smooth cut was difficult). After 80 grit I moved up in increments to 120, 240 and eventually finished on 400. I probably could have gone higher, however I was satisfied with the finish at 400, and was also worried that if I went too high, the wood would be too smooth and not porous enough to absorb the finish.



6. After sanding was finished I applied 3 layers of Danish Oil, each left to dry for over 12 hours and the final coat left to cure for over 24 hours untouched, this is important especially in colder environments where the oil won't cure as quickly.



7. Here is my completed bowl, finished extremely smooth and given as a Christmas gift.

Things to note for using Purpleheart:

1. The wood is very nice to work with and has a fairly tight grain, this sometimes comes with high cost
2. When you first start turning, the wood will not look purple at all, as seen in some of the earlier pictures. It looks much closer to Walnut or even Iroko. However don't worry, as you sand to higher and higher grits and eventually apply a finish. It brings out its purple colour very nicely.

CXS Tools
Abrasives specialist and sanding equipment supplier.



As well as abrasives, we stock Air filter machines to filter fine hazardous dust in workshops.

Products are available online at –
www.cxstools.co.uk

Or contact us at: info@cxstools.co.uk

**Association of
Woodturners**
of Great Britain



Volunteers required!

**The Association of Woodturners
of Great Britain**

We could do with 2 or 3 Assistants for the South East and Scotland representatives

SE North of London, SE Kent,
and although he lives in the area
himself, an assistant rep SE West of
London.

Trade & Business Officer with a view to take over from the incoming Chairman

Treasurers Assistant with a view to take over from the present Treasurer

A Safeguarding Officer is required

Anyone interested in the positions or just
helping out should contact the Secretary for
further details.

Contact Bryan Milham (Secretary)
at secretary@awgb.co.uk
or telephone 07876 321 293

The 17th International Woodturning Seminar will take place at
Yarnfield Park Training & Conference Centre

Stone Staffordshire ST15 0NL

from 4-6 October 2024

The event will run from Friday lunchtime to Sunday afternoon.



We have 10 of the best International Turners from around the world showing their skills and passing on their experiences and knowledge, freely and with passion.



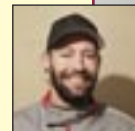
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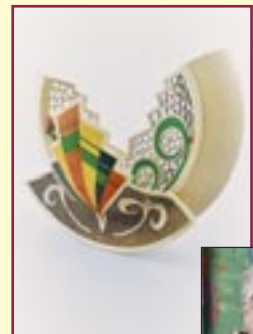
David O'Neill
Ireland



Neil Joynt
New Zealand



Yann Marot
France



Margaret Garrard
UK



Mick Hanbury
UK

Throughout the event we have trade stands, a raffle and of course the instant gallery where we encourage everyone to bring up to 3 pieces of their best work to display.

Make this a date in your diary, you won't regret it! The seminar is open to AWGB members and non-members alike. We look forward to seeing you there! You can book using the booking form in this issue of *Revolutions* or you can book on the website at awgbwoodturningseminar.co.uk



Simon Hope
UK

The early bird rate is open until the end of Feb 2024 You may pay a 50% deposit and the balance 4 weeks before the Seminar or you can pay in full. All bookings are guaranteed and will be refunded in full if the event doesn't go ahead.

AWGB International Seminar 4th to 6th October 2024

Booking Form

The accommodation comprises en-suite double and twin rooms, and there are a number of accessible rooms. We are pleased to offer a range of attendance options. Please select the quantity required. If you have any particular needs or requests please note them below. (All costs include VAT)

Early Bird Discount applies if you pay 50% before 31 March 2024.

Package	Description	Cost	Early Bird Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
A	Full Weekend incl Accommodation and Meals	£490.00	£460.00		
AT	Full Weekend incl Accommodation and Meals with Twin room for Two People	£900.00	£840.00		
AD	Full Weekend incl Accommodation and Meals with Double room for Two People	£900.00	£840.00		
B	Full Weekend incl Lunches, No Accommodation or Evening Meals	£355.00	£335.00		
C	Friday incl Lunch, No Evening Meal	£105.00	£100.00		
D	Saturday incl Lunch, No Evening Meal	£155.00	£145.00		
E	Sunday incl Lunch	£115.00	£105.00		
F	Saturday incl Lunch & Evening Meal	£170.00	£160.00		
G	Full weekend for second person - shared room accommodation & meals only - no access to demonstrations.	£235.00	£220.00		
Total Cost					

Name (as you would like it on your badge)	
Address (inc Postcode)	
Email address	
Tel Number	
Membership Number (if applicable)	
Please advise any particular requirements (diet, access etc)	

Data Protection: The information you provide on this form will be used solely for dealing with you as a member of the AWGB; to inform you of AWGB news and to administer your attendance at AWGB events. By signing this form you are giving consent for the AWGB to use your data as described in our privacy policy which can be found at www.awgb.co.uk/privacy-policy. Your data will be used and stored in accordance with this policy.

Payment:

Early Bird: 50% deposit on booking before 31 March 2024, remainder due 4 weeks prior to the seminar

Non-Early Bird: 50% deposit on booking after 31 March 2024, remainder due 4 weeks prior to the seminar.

NB If you are unable to attend your deposit may be refunded at the discretion of the AWGB.

I have paid by cheque/bank transfer/international bank transfer (delete as appropriate). We are unable to take card payments by telephone. Card payments can be made on the website or by sending a payment through PayPal to awgbtrading@awgb.co.uk

Signed:

Date:

Payment by cheque payable to **AWGB Trading Ltd**, or

Bank transfer to sort code 09-01-28, Account number 41132390 (use family name/2024 as reference) or

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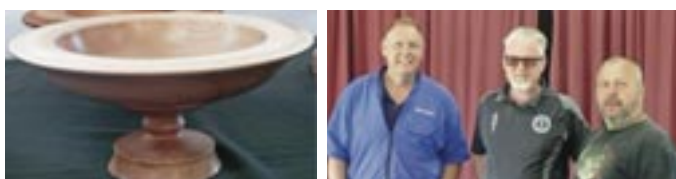
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Waveney Woodturners Training Day

David Ritchie

The Waveney & District Woodturners were delighted with their full day training programme on the 4th June, this was held at the Waveney club and was well supported by other local clubs. It was the second of a two day event, the Saturday being a demonstration by Mick Hanbury who has become a favourite at the club and on Sunday (June 4th), 9 lathes were set up and a team of three helped to give excellent advice on all aspects of turning. The main aim of the course was to encourage safety, improve tool control, correct, bad habits and of course enjoy our hobby.

All participants were issued with a bowl blank for face plate turning and a spindle blank in Sycamore and instructed on how to create a footed bowl. With guidance from Simon Hope, Darren Breeze and Mick Hanbury, all turners were successful and delighted with their results.



A sample of the turned bowl with foot, Mick Hanbury did a superb job in leading the programme, with excellent support from Simon (on left) Darren (centre) attending the lathes, and answering questions.



The group were called together to discuss the differences between a belt and wheel sharpening system. Various angles and length of grind were discussed.



A junior member of the group cleaning up the face of the blank using a "pull" cut and a long grind bowl gouge.

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VISA VISA VISA



Deep in concentration whilst, creating a master piece. This turned out well, with a decorated internal spigot in the foot.



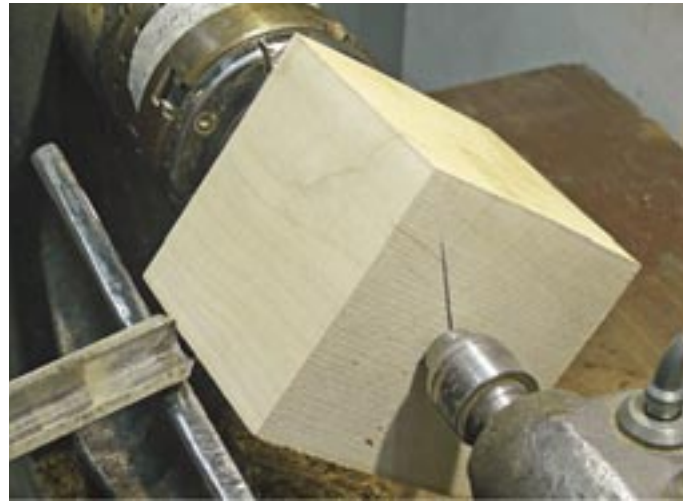
Darren assisting on the tool angle when creating the bowl. The incorrect angle can cause a "catch" particularly when using a push cut.



Simon showing where and how the chucking points should be to hold the piece, for hollowing the centre. At this point the bowl blank was held by a screw chuck.



It is important to protect your eyes and face in all aspects of turning by wearing a helmet or face visor and if dust extraction is unavailable it is advisable not to "dry sand". By applying an oil or paste which is readily available, it was used throughout this training day, making the particle's fall to the floor and not become airborne.



Turning the foot between centres from a 100mm square of Sycamore was a new discipline, with the tail stock locked in place and pressure foreword to the steb centre the piece was held securely enabling cuts to be made from both ends.



Shaping a spigot to fit the bowl base was the next challenge.

Achieving the correct balance is paramount, this can be best achieved by ensuring that the diameter of the base is approximatey one third of the bowl diameter.

Mark out the base showing the size of the spigot to fit the recess in the bowl, the size of the shoulder and the diameter of the finished base.

The bowl diameter was 240mm therefore the base of the stand should be in the region of 80 mm.



The spigot was cut to size to fit the bowl, and some of the waste removed.

The majority of the waste was removed using a bowl gouge.

Changing to a spindle gouge with a finger nail profile the beads and ball shape were created to decorate the stem.



After sanding (using paste to minimise air born dust) and using a parting tool the piece was parted off at the required length

Finally after turning the piece in the chuck holding on the spigot, the stub was removed and sanding finished.



A selection of the finished pieces.



A happy band, very pleased with the day, all hoping they can remember the advice they have been given.

This was an excellent exercise for the club and I highly recommend other clubs consider it, however a few words of warning.

1 Discuss within your committee who you wish to lead it, we were fortunate having Mick and a very experienced team.

2 Explore all costs, remember if you have professional turners from outside the club you may have mileage to cover plus their standard fees.

3 Finally ensure you have sufficient numbers and finance to meet your objectives and you are covered by insurance.

4 Our thanks to the Muford Village Hall who had sufficient power to run all the lathes.



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A history of making shavings

Bury St Edmunds Woodturning Club

The Bury St Edmunds Woodturning Club (Burywoodturners to its mates!) Has been in existence since 2009 and many of our members may not know of our history and of the many great things we have done in the past. This is the story of how we set out on this journey, a journey which has yet to reach its final destination.



I had recently retired from my voluntary work as secretary of a club for people with disabilities, and was getting bored staring at a computer screen devoid of minutes, letters and the usual things secretaries have to do. When two of my fiends who share my hobby of woodturning, came to me to suggest that we start up a woodturning club, it seemed the thing to do. We discussed how we might start this club, and the answer was simple, write a letter to the local paper!

We needed somewhere to meet and we found a pub! The Minden Rose made us welcome and for our first meeting we had over twenty people turn up. Amongst them was Brian Partridge, the South East Representative for the Association of Woodturners Great Britain (AWGB).

The AWGB

We made the decision to join the AWGB early, and to date we have not regretted it.

The AWGB gives us an annual grant for demonstrators, and pays for our insurance. We would have found the first two years difficult without this, and equally the last two! That is not all they do for us, we have three members who have passed the tutors assessment. In 2017 we had a grant for the Woodies in the Park event. Some of our younger members have had professional tuition, and if needed they have lathes and other equipment donated and will pass this on to any club which needs it. Look at the AWGB web site and see the range of things which any of us can apply for.

Following that meeting we decided to use the Minden Rose as a base and soon held our first club night. The numbers settled down to around twelve, Vic became Chair and I was the secretary/treasurer. Graham Nicholas, Mick Heslop and David Griggs joined the committee and stayed for many years, and we are all still members of the club.

From there we grew to around twenty or so members and had some memorable nights. Brian Partridge gave us our first demo, Fred Wright kept us amused with some of his tales of woodturning.

After a year we were outgrowing the pub and Vic asked Richard Evans, of DJ Evans, a well-known local hardware and tool shop, if we could use the shop demonstration area for our meetings. Well you need a bit of cheek now and again!

Richard was most helpful and was very supporting in getting us started. Richard came to many club nights and on occasion even made the half time tea!

There were three staff members, to whom we owe a great debt. George Trudgett was car park attendant, amongst other duties!

Alfie was always there, a man of few words, but having worked at DJ Evans for many years, he knew where every screw, scutcheon and lefthanded whatsits were to be found. Give Alfie a brown warehouse coat, and you half expected Ronnie Barker to come in and ask for four candles.



Not asleep! Focused on the demonstrator. DJ Evans demonstrator's area.

Jan was our greatest help, getting the area cleared and the chairs set out before we arrived and made the tea at half time.

We would not have been able to function without the help they gave, we met there for ten years all rent free.

We started a newsletter to give members up to date information, a web site and a Facebook page. Many of you have sent photos and ideas for the newsletter and it is the mainstay of our communications with you.

Things do change however, and the shop underwent a major refit, and the we had to close when COVID struck. After fifteen months without a meeting, and after a lot of searching and enquiries, we finally found a new home at Rougham Sports Hall. We found an ally in Ray Balmer the hall manager, and we had our first meeting there in August 2021, we are settled there now, and for me it was almost like coming home as I could see the house I once lived in, just over the hedge!

Things were different now, we had left the rent-free accommodation we had enjoyed for so long, and now had to pay the rent! This of course, put us on a par with many other clubs and we just had to make the best of it. One advantage it gave us was somewhere to store the 'back box' the cabinet we used to store the club lathe and other bits and pieces. Vic and Michael no longer had to load Vic's van and unload it again next day.

All this led to a rethink on our programme and we needed to budget more carefully, not only do we need to pay the rent, the cost of demonstrators went up and with current inflation so did the cost of mileage.

We tried 'hands on nights', and were surprised at the popularity of them, two or three lathes on the go, time and space to talk to each other, and the time to sweep up came around rather quickly.

Over the years we had few attempts at fundraising, mainly because we were largely self-funding, the AWGB grants making the difference. The two we did were successful, we had a tombola stall at a couple of county shows, with most recent one at the south Suffolk Show. We made some money and put the word out about our club gaining a member or two each time.

Along the way, three members did their homework, and took the AWGB's Tutor training course. We held a series of sessions at Street Forge Workshop, and helped a few members to start their career as turners.

The other major event we set up, was Woodies in the Park, the AWGB gave all clubs a grant to celebrate thirty years since inception. We had, yes you guessed it, a tombola, a pole lathe turner and a really successful pyrography table, kids lined up for a go!

Helping others

We have always been prepared to offer our services to others



and I have added some photos with captions to remind ourselves of the things we should be proud to have done.



We made toys for Elmswell Primary School. They had a major flood when a water pipe burst over the Christmas holiday, what you see there is a fraction of those we made.



The St Nicholas Hospice needs a page to itself! This is just one of the things we turned for them, thirty-four wig stands for cancer patients.



These were made for the Hearing Dogs Charity.



We were approached by the Weavers and Spinners Guild, to make drop spindles. These are just a few of them.

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Kennet & Avon Woodturners Presentation to Wiltshire Air Ambulance 26.07.2023.

Philip Lobb

Kennet & Avon chosen charity for Christmas 2022 was the Wiltshire Air Ambulance (WAA). Our members were asked to turn a piece to exhibit and enter the annual competition at the Gallery Night held on Thursday 8 December 2022. The pieces were subsequently donated by the members and sold in aid of the WAA charity. The total amount raised was £505.00.

Hollie Newhook the Community Engagement & Volunteer Coordinator for the Wiltshire Air Ambulance based at Semington invited The K & A members to tour their facilities.

George Williams (Pilot) with Emma Thompson and Jo Gilbert (Critical Care paramedics) provided our party with an in-depth guided tour of the Bell Helicopter and the Operations Room.



Photograph provided by Trevor Porter of the Wiltshire Times.

Photograph – Front row - Phil Lobb, K & A Chairman, Emma Thompson and Jo Gilbert (Critical Care paramedics) with George Williams (Pilot) with the cheque for £505.00. Also shown are Hollie Newhook (Community Engagement & Volunteer Coordinator) extreme right, and club members Peter Hatherell; Tim Awmack; Kevin Smith; Alan Reed; John Weller; Kevin Crane; Sam Morris; Derrick Weston; Ken Crittle and Joe Kerrawn.

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Dave Atkinson Obituary

Russell Gibbs AWGB Chairman

I have the sad duty of writing a few words for the obituary of our recently departed Vice Chairman Dave Atkinson, on the evening of the 8th of July.

Dave recruited me into the AWGB as the Northern Representative, during a multi club demonstration at Axminster Tools in Warrington. We soon became good friends travelling together many times to face to face meetings around the country. Dave has been a great supporter of British woodturning.



He was a great help in his early days on the Executive, looking after health and safety and insurance, then taking on Treasurer at a time when the AWGB became a charity which was a very time consuming and lengthy process. Dave became Vice Chairman and then Chairman and after a short break due to ill health he came back again as Vice Chairman. In addition to the above roles he worked continually with Peter Bradwick in developing the Certificate in Woodturning and the Diploma.

Dave unfortunately had to resign due to ill health and after treatment for Prostate Cancer he appeared to be in remission. He was a great advocate for men of a certain age to be tested and his advice on this has saved me and others.

A few words from Dave's book of remembrance page on the AWGB website.

A lovely person who will be missed by all who knew him and by those who will benefit from his contribution. He was a true inspiration and shared his knowledge and time unconditionally, promoting the art and craft of turning, Dave was such a great influence across the UK.

Dave was one of those guys who would always offer help and before you knew it he was in your workshop teaching you to chase threads.

Such a sad loss Dave was a true gentleman and always fun to be around

Gareth :- says High Peak Wood Turners, was one of the clubs Dave was a member of, I was lucky to have got to know him a little. Encouraging to a Newby such as myself and welcoming too. I loved his demo's with a mix of excellent turning which offered teaching to all but had a mix of tremendous humour

Ellen-Nesta Stout :- David gave me my first ever woodturning lesson and I was hooked immediately. Encouraging, supportive and good craic - he was such a great teacher. He then helped me get a lathe from the AWGB on long-term loan so that I could pursue my new found hobby. The morning before I heard he had passed away I was in the garage turning. I'd managed to put the lathe in reverse and then remembered him doing the same on my first lesson so fixed it; then I realised the chords on my hoodie were dangling down just in time before I started the lathe. Each time I could hear him jokingly, but firmly telling me off to keep me safe. Two crisis' averted thankfully. Even though he may not still be with us in person, I'm sure we'll all still be guided by him one way or the other. I hope you're in a magical place full of timber, Dave.

My favourite anecdote was during our attendance at the AWGB Bi Annual Seminar, held that year at Loughborough University, the Executive were given very basic student accommodation single room with a shared kitchen/lounge. After a hard days work and 6 or so pints of Guinness in the student bar we staggered back to the lounge where I put a few cans and some crisps on the table Dave piously and with much vigour announced that he could not have crisps as he was on a diet !!!



Dave demonstrated woodturning extensively and was always happy to share his knowledge with anyone, particularly his skew work and thread chasing.

I was pleased to be with Dave on Friday the 7th July before he had to be rushed to Hospital. Dave was always a very outgoing and welcoming guy who could be relied on to speak clearly and get things done, the Executive along with his family, friends and the woodturning community will sorely miss him.



Sheila:- Dave was a lovely friend that help guide me through my AWGB adventure when I became the Revolutions editor as a volunteer. I was almost immediately co-opted onto the Executive where Daves enthusiasm and drive was contagious. He put his heart and soul into whatever he did and set himself some amazing challenges despite having a very busy business to run. I miss our chats, catchups and comparing notes! Dave had an amazing sense of humour and we had many laughs, I will miss his advice and wit, as will many others.

Meet Roger Busfield

Tom Dullage - Cumbria Woodturners Association Secretary

Many club members and visitors to demonstrations have admired Roger's craftsmanship, benefitted from his friendly help and advice, and simply enjoyed time in his company. A committed supporter of the club since the early '90s, Roger has been a mainstay of meetings, demonstrations and public events, holding the position of club Chairman for 12 years. Finally stepping down in 2022 at the tender age of 90, Roger was made life President of the club by a unanimous vote at the club AGM. Although he may have slowed down a little, Roger still manages to offer help and tuition at the club's "Turn and Learn" days, as well as doing some demonstrations at the Hawkshead events. Roger has packed so much into his nine decades that club members might be unaware of, we thought it was time to share some tales from behind- and away from- the lathe. After, as he said: "a good grilling", here's Roger's story:

Your profession was plumbing, was that a family tradition?

'No; my father was a mill manager near Kendal, but I didn't want to follow him into the mill, it looked tiring, tedious work! My dream was to go into farming, but I didn't have sufficient capital, even for a tenancy. I'd seen a plumber fit a sink at home and thought "I could do that!" After attending Technical School in Harrogate for 2 years, I became indentured to a plumber and began my apprenticeship.'

How did you come to start your own plumbing shop and business?

'Well, I'd met Margaret at school, and afterwards, we got engaged. After my apprenticeship, I worked on a local farm for about 3 years (still holding onto the dream!). I'd ride my motorbike over to Yorkshire to visit Margaret, and we started looking for a home for after we were married. Margaret went one better and found a shop, with accommodation above, in Haworth. We married on 5 April 1965, and with some financial help from my father, we moved in, stocking the shop with ironmongery, fishing tackle and pet food. Margaret ran the shop and I worked as a plumber.'

I believe there was a hiatus to your career when you were required to serve your country?

'Oh yes, my generation had to do National Service, I was in the infantry. After 8 months' training in Germany our battalion shipped out to Korea for 12 months, via the Suez Canal, Aden, Ceylon and Singapore to Seoul, guarding a bridge over the river Imjim. During leave, I managed to visit Tokyo, and will never forget my first view of Mount Fuji. At the end of our commission, we were shipped to a transit camp in Egypt, flown first to Malta, then on to Stanstead. From there it was a case of: "Here's your travel documents, get yourself to Carlisle Castle to be demobbed!" A bit of a chaotic end, but what a great way to see the world.'

How long were you in Haworth?

'We ran the shop and business for 35 years, until 1991. In that time we raised our son Mark and daughter Helen.

Thanks to them I now have 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Sadly none of the family are interested in taking up woodturning (yet), but they keep me busy in other ways! After nearly 50 years' manual work, I needed a hip replacement, which prompted retiring and selling the shop. Margaret and I moved back over this side of the Pennines, into the bungalow that had formerly been my mother's in Bolton-le-Sands. I was even more comfortable after having my other pesky hip replaced in 1996.'

Was woodturning a hobby during your working life?

'No, I was a keen amateur photographer, and also did watercolour painting. I used Leica cameras, processing and printing my own photographs. I was a member of a Leica photographic group, even converting our spare room at home into a darkroom.'

And you mentioned riding a motorbike?

'From a young age I'd messed about on an off-road bike, then I started trials riding, initially with a modified Panther road bike. I've had various bikes including Panther, James, Bultaco and Fantic. The James was sold to finance the purchase of a van for my plumbing business- a grown-up decision, but I did miss it! I got quite a few certificates and placings in trials, including Scot Trial finisher's certificate and 2nd class Scottish Six Days Trial award. It was fun meeting some well-known riders.



So how did you come to woodturning?

'I retired from trials riding when I had my first hip replacement. I'd always been pretty practical and good with my hands, so when my son Mark asked me to make a piece for a child's high chair, I experimented by putting a nail in each end of a suitable length of wood, and made a makeshift lathe using an electric drill. That was the start of a slippery slope, as many club members will recognise. I went to a woodturning demonstration at Kendal Tools, which somehow led to me selling one of Leica cameras to buy a small lathe.'



How and when did you discover Cumbrian Woodturners?

'In the days long before the internet and social media, it was recommended to me by a friend. I wasn't a founder member, but it had only being going a couple of years (since 1990) when I joined. I've also been a member of Red Rose Woodturners, and I'm still a member of Eden Valley Woodturners. Woodturning clubs are like Hobnobs- you don't have to stop at just one! I also used to visit clubs as far away as Liverpool to demonstrate woodturning.'

What are your favourite things to turn?

'I've done a lot of varied turning over the years, but I thinking

about it I often tend back towards how I started: spindle turning. One of my favourite, if challenging, turnings was a pair of offset candlesticks, in mirror image of each other. I remember turning 7 candlesticks before I was satisfied with the match! I used to do regular craft fairs, and became well known for my small clocks.'



Looking back over your 30 years in the club, how do you feel it's doing?

'Although membership numbers are lower than some peak years in the past, it's still going strong, and feels more inclusive, accessible and welcoming. The atmosphere is really friendly and supportive, with most members getting to know each other much better. I know there's lots of woodturning videos that people can watch online, but nothing beats being in the room, able to see a demonstration from different angles, being able to ask questions, and getting hands-on. I remember seeing a demonstration by French turner Jean-Francois Escoulen, and subsequently attended a week-long seminar hosted by him in France, which was a game-changer for me. The more events and involvement we can encourage the better; giving members experience, tips and techniques to continue at home and expand their woodturning expertise and enjoyment. The club's "Turn and Learn" meetings have been a really good initiative, generating lots of participation, enthusiasm, and friendly competition.'



Work, family, hobbies- I don't know how you found the time to publish a book?

'Everyone needs a plumber at some point, so you find yourself in all sorts of situations, with all sorts of people! I started jotting some of the amusing escapades that happened to me in an old exercise book, which became two books, then three, then... I wrote them just for me, but after I retired, I dug them out, and people said I should publish.'

'I got an ancient typewriter out of the attic (complete with glass keys!) and persevered with much jammed keys and muttered swearing, until my grandson Matthew said "get a computer!". He helped me get a MacBook, and with assistance from a neighbour who was an author, I finished my book in 2012. It's called "I've Bust", which reflects the panicky midnight phone calls that are an emergency plumber's lot. It's self-published; I get a batch printed if I'm asked for copies, with proceeds going to Cancer Research and Community Nurse Palliative Care Specialists, in memory of Margaret.'

As president, Roger continues to be an active member of the club, attending turning meetings, committee meetings, demonstrations. He still teaches and demonstrates woodturning at club meetings and at the club's twice-yearly exhibition at Hawkshead Market Hall.

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The Worshipful Company of Turners



Woodturning CONNECT 2023, Biennial exhibition & competitions

When: Judging on 18th October (private view in the evening), public viewing on Thursday 19th October

Where: Pewterers' Hall, Oak Lane, London EC2V 7DE

Call for Entries! Deadline Monday 18th September 2023

The Worshipful Company of Turners' biennial turning competitions are well established in the City and Craft calendar. Use our next one to **CONNECT** with a London audience and potential buyers to get your name known.

Fresh opportunities in 2023 include a new category '**Master's Exhibition**', which is by invitation only. Through the theme, 'Coronation', it will showcase the finest elite woodturning in the UK. Curators from the V&A museum in London will be making a 'choice' award from this collection.

Try something new, by merging pewter, leather or both into your woodturning. The '**Master's Mixed Media Competition**', not only gives turners the chance to mix wood with pewter and leather, but also to work on a project and **CONNECT** with other skilled craftspeople. Contact Becca at assistantclerk@turnersco.com, and she will make enquiries through the Livery Companies if you wish to work with a pewterer or leatherworker.

There's also the opportunity for you to sell your work to those who are **passionate** about **shopping for beautiful, unique handmade** woodturned pieces. At the competitions, we are giving the purchaser the chance to **CONNECT** with you, the maker and perhaps commission their own special piece.

Details of the 10 competitions are described at: www.turnersco.com, and online entry forms are now available. *Please ensure your entry form has been submitted before Monday 18th September 2023 as forms received after this date will not be accepted. No entry will be accepted without prior registration.*

North Devon Woodturners

Mark Beckett

I recently had the pleasure of attending North Devon Woodturners annual show. A well-attended event held at St. Johns Garden Centre. Two demonstration lathes on the go, a tombola of members work, a sales table with pieces lovingly turned by the membership and the main area set out as the competition are with classes ranging from novice up through to master class.

As you can see from the pictures, the standard of work from all involved is of a very high standard.



Formed in 1991, our friendly club has a wide range of skills among it's members. They have monthly woodturning demonstrations by professional woodturners and proficient club members, giving you a chance to improve or learn woodturning skills. They always welcome new members whether you are new to turning or experienced.

The demonstrations at the monthly meetings are supported by AV equipment so that everyone can see and hear the demonstrator. They also have a monthly project table where

members are encouraged to bring along their turnings, both good and not so good, to "show and tell" and to get ideas and advice. Tea time offers the chance to talk to other members and the demonstrator, plenty of friendly help and advice is always available. Meetings at: Fremington Parish Hall, Higher Road, Fremington, Barnstaple EX31 3BG

John Hepworth

John Smith



It is with great sadness that we must announce the passing of our Friend and Life Member John Hepworth. John was one of the first members of the Weston Woodturning Circle back in 2002 when the Club was founded.

Over the years John worked tirelessly to promote and manage the club's affairs, each month would see an article in the local paper announcing the latest Club activity and an invitation to anyone who was interested in Woodturning to come along and visit the club. He was responsible for the instigation of the club newsletter and over the years would step in to save



the newsletter when one or two editors dropped out. John would also be in contact with members who had missed a few meetings to enquire if they were OK. He also organised the first auction at Christmas to raise money for the Clubs' nominated charity.

John arranged the 20th Club anniversary open evening and contacted as many founder members to gain as much club history as possible. He also held several committee positions and latterly, because of ill health, continued to be membership secretary without being able to visit the club. For his services to the club, he was made a Life Member in 2016 and continued to be interested in club affairs even when he was in hospital.



Although contracting Polio as a child John never once let this get in the way of anything he put his mind to. Certainly, one look at the wonderful wooden models and wood turned items he produced you would never know he was anything but a fully fit and able-bodied person.

There were many kind words expressed from club members when I had to let everyone know that John had passed, but one that sticks in my mind is the fact that John will carry on in the great workshop in the sky just so long as St. Peter does not ask him for an entry fee to the Pearly gates because as a true Yorkshireman, he would not have paid I suspect !



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For more information contact John Lelieveld on lelieveld@btinternet.com or telephone 07539 718445

East Herts Woodturning Association marks 30th anniversary with visit from USA-based expert Nick Agar on European tour

Glynn Goodwin

USA-based Nick Agar put on a demonstration to 53 members and guests of East Herts Woodturning Association when he visited the club on 9 July to help celebrate their 30th Anniversary, as part of his European tour. Several of those present had travelled some distance to take advantage of a rare visit by Nick to the UK.



During his demonstration Nick turned two bowls, a shield and a lidded pot, each incorporating a variety of texturing and colouring techniques, for which he is renowned.

East Herts Woodturning Association meets at Bullfields Centre, Cutforth Road, Sawbridgeworth, on the third

Wednesday of each month, and includes members with a wide range of expertise, from beginner to semi-professional. Members often demonstrate at shows such as the Hatfield Forest Woodfest and Birchanger Wood's open day.



Club Chairman, Phil Steele, thanked everyone for coming, all the people who helped organise the event, Simon Hope and Martin Pidgen for supplying "retail therapy" and said it was a fantastic day and a great way to celebrate our 30th. The club is thriving since Covid and has gained six new members in the last year.

The club's next Sunday demo is on **22 October 2023**, featuring **Jason Breach**. Tickets have to be pre-booked and paid for. If you are interested please send an email to secretary@easthertswoodturning.co.uk

So let's look forward to the next 30 years at East Herts!



Thank you!

P John Evans

I would like to say a big congratulations to the committee and members of the Tudor Rose woodturning club for another brilliant show and exhibition at Daventry in May after a absence due to Covid. Again well worth the trip up from south west Wales, well done all keep up the good work.

AWGB Merchandise

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(details on page 3)

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**Association of
Woodturners**
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Development and Training

Member Training Workshops

Gary Rance

Wendover, Buckinghamshire

27th October 2023

Thread Chasing

Les Thorne

Four Marks, Hampshire

4th November 2023

Intermediate/Advanced
Spindal & Skew

Simon Hope

Great Bromley, Essex

6th December 2023

Thread Chasing

These workshops are subject to restrictions at the time and unfortunately may need to be cancelled at short notice. Due to the change in circumstances, we understand that members that have previously booked to the course last year may no longer wish to do so. We are therefore asking that everyone re-applies for the workshops. However, preference will be given to those that have been allocated places previously that were cancelled. If you have any questions, please contact our Development Officer - Steve Gordon. email at development@awgb.co.uk or tel: 07939 371420.

If a workshop is oversubscribed, there will be a ballot for places.

To apply - visit the AWGB website: www.awgb.co.uk and download an application form and send to the coordinator shown on the form. Or complete a 'Training Workshop Application' web form. Only fully completed application forms will be considered.



Club Demonstrators Wanted

Are you a Club Demonstrator?

Confident in your presentation?

Ready to take yourself to the next level and stand in front of a wider audience?

Have you got a technique you'd like to show off?

A special turning you make that you'd like to show people how to make?

Can you bring something new to the woodturning world?

Have you considered being a Club Level Demonstrator?

It's Easy:

Download the 'Commissions Tuition Demonstration Register Application' form on the website, fill it in and e-mail it to the AWGB Data Manager.

Provide a copy of an up to date PLI certificate.

Your name and contact details will be available on the website for clubs to find, and book you to do them a demonstration.

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