

Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

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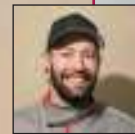
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Revolutions

Copy deadline for the next edition of Revolutions

1st August 2024

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

Roger Cutler

As I start to write these Chairmans Notes for the first time I am conscious of the many illustrious people who have preceded me as Chairman of the AWGB starting way back in 1987 with Ray Key. In many ways a daunting prospect but one that I hope I can fulfil.

First, may I say a great thank you to the people who are stepping aside at this time: Russell Gibbs, who steps down as Chairman and Mike Mansfield who steps aside as Treasurer. I have had the privilege of being Vice Chair to Russell for the past year during which time we got to know each other fairly well. Russell was a great one for process management and during his tenure the Association training programmes have been consolidated and he leaves us a good platform to work from. Mike stands aside as Treasurer and will take on the role of Assistant Treasurer as the new man, George Rogers, finds his feet. Mike has been an excellent Treasurer keeping us all in line. I would ask that you all read his article in the newsletter on our finances as this is very sober reading. Our finances will be an area which we will have to address in the coming months. One area that we are revisiting is the Revolutions newsletter – as Mike points out the printing and posting of the hard copy of the newsletter is our biggest outlay and if we could get more people to receive their newsletter by e-mail, the more money for training and help for clubs would be available.

As I write these notes we are in the envious position of having an almost complete Executive, the only vacancy is that of Vice Chairman that I vacated. It would be good to have more volunteers to enable us to have people to shadow those in the Executive positions.

Our training programme is well under way and the upcoming courses are advertised elsewhere in this newsletter. There will be a ballot if a course is oversubscribed (application forms are on our website). I would ask that if there is anything specific you would like us to cover in our courses please let us know – if there is enough demand we will look to putting that course on.

The same also applies to our Youth Training, we are conscious that the majority of our courses have been towards the southern end of the country. One reason for this has been the lack of suitable workshops. But this is changing, and we are currently investigating other facilities around the country. Again, all youth training is free for our young members and membership for those 21 and younger is also free, so please let us know if you would like to take advantage of these courses.

We are quickly getting to that time in the calendar when our International Seminar starts to take a great deal of our time and efforts. We are only 5 months away and things are rapidly taking shape. As I wrote last issue, the AWGB Seminar is much more than going to another demonstration, it's a whole experience based around woodturning. So why not come along in October and experience it yourself.



The charity received a grant of £5000 from the Nina and Roger Stewart fund and dispersed £1112 out of the fund. These figures are not included in the charity's activity

AWGB Charity	2023 Actuals	2022 Actuals
Balance sheet		
Cash at bank	56,947	68,511
Other assets	1	1
Debtors	12,185	11,696
Total Assets	69,133	80,207
Less Creditors and deferred income	-14,907	-14,609
Net Assets/ Total Reserves	54,226	65,598
Charity Income		
Memberships		
Individual Memberships	52,661	49,677
Associate Memberships	2,385	2,880
Corporate Memberships	965	1,050
Gift Aid Rcts from HMRC	7,336	6,809
Total Membership Income	63,347	60,417
Seminar sales	0	5,773
Donation	1,295	5,018
Training Fees	0	1,154
Revolutions advertising	2,072	1,739
Bank Interest	286	29
Miscellaneous Income	640	0
Total Income	67,640	74,130

AWGB Charity	2023 Actuals	2022 Actuals
Charity Expenditure		
Grants to clubs		
Grants - Demonstrator	13,200	14,700
Grants - Discretionary	2,107	4,683
Grants - Events	776	240
Grants - Covid		0
Total Sums granted	16,083	19,624
Other Membership Benefit Costs		
Revolutions printing and distribution cost	22,845	21,533
Seminar costs	0	13,587
Training	9,976	9,406
Affiliates Public Liability Insurance	6,090	6,405
Total Membership Benefits	54,994	70,554
Administrative Expenses		
General Insurance	924	753
Goverance Costs	4,595	3,122
Show Costs	6,460	1,612
Travel and Subsistence costs	3,765	3,352
Membership Costs	5,085	870
Office Costs	4,133	4,744
Bank, PP, CoHo Fees	276	273
Advertising, Trophies and Prizes	922	1,202
Membership of HCA	40	40
Total Administrative Costs	26,200	15,968
Total Expenditure	81,194	86,522
Surplus /(Deficit) for the Year	-13,554	-12,393

Statement on behalf of the Trustees

The above summary financial information has been produced specially for the Annual Review. The summary financial information has been extracted from the full statutory accounts of The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain which provide much greater detail about the charity and its activities and which readers should refer to for a full understanding of the charity's financial position. The full statutory accounts were subject to an independent examiner's report, which was unqualified.

Copies of the full statutory accounts can be obtained from The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain's office at 27 Grenville Meadows, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, PL22 0JS.

Very important information

Mike Mansfield, Treasurer

The accounts were approved at the AGM on 14th of April. Presented is a summary of the results which endeavours to show how the members benefit from their subscriptions. The comparative figures for 2022 are included. Copies of the published accounts are available from the treasurer or can be viewed on the Companies House Website.

The charity income in 2023 was £67,640, of which £54,994 was deemed to be spent on activities that benefited the members. This includes the cost of producing and delivering Revolutions, at £22,845. This is made up of £15,334 postage and £6,494 printing. The postage costs are expected to rise significantly in 2024.

Grants paid out by the charity amounted to £16,083, the bulk of which are Demonstrator grants.

The costs of running the association amounted to £26,000; £6,400 of which was the cost of shows and there was £5,000 spent on a new stock of membership cards, which will last for a couple of years. In addition, the charity received a grant of £5,000 to further support its youth training activities.

The figures show that the charity has had deficits of about £12,000 for the past couple of years which prompted an increase in the subscriptions for the current year. This will raise an additional £10,500 in 2024. However this has been offset by the increase in demonstrator grants from £300 to £350. If all the affiliated clubs applied for this grant it would

cost the association some £22,000, an increase of £3,000. Other grants have been limited in total.

There is also a subsidy of £105 available to affiliated clubs that use Zurich Municipal to cover public and product liability insurance. This sum represents the cost of the cover when the charity organised it directly with the insurers. The cost to the association is over £6,000 a year.

The association has been represented at several shows, and a full programme of shows and training has started getting the AWGB activities back to the pre-covid levels. In 2024 there is another seminar planned at Yarnfield which will require the association's support. In 2022 the charity had to absorb some £13,000 of the event's expenses, does this mean the seminar lost £13K? yes.

The association will need to review its finances if this level of activity is to continue.

Seminar Scholarships

The trustees may approve a scholarship fund to assist those with limited resources to attend the AWGB Seminars. Where approved the scholarships would provide free entry to the seminar for successful claimants and would cover the travelling and accommodation costs for selected individuals.

Other organisations may also be approached to sponsor scholarships.

Application form is on page 13.

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Presentation of Award - John Boyne-Aitken BEM.



Presentation of award that took place on Monday 8th April at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire when John Boyne-Aitken BEM, the Chairman of the Kennet & Avon Woodturners was given the British Empire Medal for services to Heritage crafts in the Kings 2024 New Year's Honours by the His Majesties Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire – Mrs Sarah Troughton.

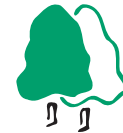
John's wife Jenny and his son and daughter attended the event along with George Charlton past club secretary and Philip Lobb MBE, Vice Chairman & Publicity Officer of Kennet & Avon Woodturners.

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3 Leave the lathe spinning for a minute or two to allow the paints to spread out. On this platter each colour was added about three times. Other colour combinations, or just a single colour, can look very effective too.



4 Once the paint is dry, protect it with a coat of Acrylic Gloss Lacquer. Allow this to dry then turn out the centre and sand to 240 grit or finer.



5 Finally, use Cut'n'Polish and Microcrystalline Wax to complete the centre of the platter. These are more controllable and make it easier to avoid any damage to the decorated edge.

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Ron turns 100

Giles Dugmore

On the 8th March the Heart of England Woodturning Club celebrated the 100th birthday of member Ron Burn.

Born in London, Ron shared his birth year with Benny Hill, Mary Lee Woods, Brian Rix, Eduardo Paolozzi, Baroness Betty Lockwood, Tony Hancock, Leslie Phillips and Joan Aiken.

The Roaring Twenties were fully underway, but countries were still recovering from the devastating effects of the First World War. 1924 was the year that Stanley Baldwin became Prime Minister of Britain for the second time after winning a landslide victory and J. Edgar Hoover was appointed head of the FBI in the USA.

Club committee member Steve Gordon turned a beautiful Ash bowl which was then handed over to club member Richard Le Page who inscribed the message "Ron Burn 100 years 17th March 2024" using a pyrography burner.



The presentation was made at Bearley Village Hall where the club meets on the second Friday of the month. Steve and Richard handed over the bowl during the meeting which took Ron by surprise as the members had managed to keep the secret from him in the run up to the meeting.



(From left to right, Steve Gordon, Ron Burn and Richard Le Page)

Ron first became interested in woodwork at school inspired by one of his teachers. He learnt basic woodworking skills, wood carving and then started to use woodturning lathes.

Ron was on the south coast having a holiday when the war broke out and he stayed there to enter grammar school before joining the Royal Navy. After the war he became a

Chartered Engineer, and enjoyed a spell with Hoover in London which led him to work as an engineer all over the country.

Ron is a keen photographer, he surfed into his early nineties and enjoyed a glass of whisky after being in the water!

Wood has been a longstanding passion of Ron's with many of the tables around his house showing his skill, along with numerous bowls and vases.

He was a founder member of the Warwick wood carvers and it was here that he refined his skill of carving intricate designs which have included a pair of ballerinas, a stag, his golden retriever, and more recently a seahorse.

He has regularly been called upon to make notice boards and has developed a skill of letter carving which has adorned many a rocking horse and various wooden plaques.

Ron's membership of the Heart of England Woodturning Club probably exceeds 25 years and he continues to participate in the demonstrations with interesting questions and observations from his extensive experience of both woodturning and woodworking.

It is interesting to note that even in the 1920s the Oliver Machine Company in the USA were manufacturing mechanical variable speed lathes. Whilst this may not have been a change made in Ron's life he has lived through an extraordinary amount of invention and technological advancement and he maintains a keen interest in this and all that life brings to him. We look forward to seeing him at many more club meetings.

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Making good things happen (for some awesome individuals)



On 23rd March this year, a small group of six young men and women spent a day with Bodmin and District Woodturners experiencing the fun and challenges of woodturning. The day began with some spindle turning and several dibbers, rolling pins, honey dippers and small vases were produced. A pasty lunch (well this is Cornwall!) was followed by an afternoon of bowl turning and some very fine bowl shapes were produced and all the young people had two objects to take home that they could be proud of. This may seem a very familiar tale but... there is more to this event than at first sight. This is a story that goes back several years and involves a lot of people, groups and charitable organisations who all played a part in bringing this wonderful day about.

Firstly, the young people who took part in this day all have a physical disability of one kind or another. They are all part of the group of people who are supported by Active8 which is a Charity in Cornwall which supports people from 14 to 30 years old who have a physical disability. The charity arranges and organises experiences, events, trips and other activities which enhance the lives of these people as part of its aim to empower and motivate and build their sense of independence.

The charity's treasurer was a member of Bodmin and District Woodturners (known as Treknaw Woodturners at that time) and approached the club to set up a woodturning experience for the youngsters they currently supported. This did happen, but there were obvious



difficulties. The day highlighted the problems that people in wheelchairs can have simply accessing the room as well as a lathe. So a rethink had to take place. The club researched the problem and potential solutions with adaptable stands to make access easier and more convenient. At first this looked out of the club's reach as adjustable lathe stands were hard to come by and very expensive. Also, time went by as Covid took hold and delayed everything for everybody. However, where there's a will there's a way! It began with a change of venue! The club was forced to move to new premises in Lostwithiel, which has very good wheelchair-friendly access and facilities.



Bodmin and District Woodturners is a charity in its own right with one of its major aims being to spread the word of woodturning and particularly encourage young people to take up the craft. This should not be hindered by any kind of barrier, either on the part of the participant or the equipment involved. So work began. A club member, who is an engineer, volunteered to produce some stands for the club's lathes. These would include several which were hydraulically adjustable, not only up and down but could be tipped forwards or backwards to achieve the perfect positioning for someone in a wheelchair, or with restricted movement or reach. This seemed a perfect solution. However, as always, there was a cost to this.

Being a charity, and having a specific purpose to our work, the club applied for help to other organisations for funding to make this all happen. Help came from two directions. Firstly we were supported by the Worshipful Company of Turners who offered funding for the out of pocket costs for putting on a day of this nature, as they have done on several occasions for the club and we are extremely grateful for their continuing support for our work. The other help came from a significant "one off" grant from the D'Oyley Carte Charitable Trust which paid for the adjustable stands and for the purchase of two new lathes to make these experiences available to as many people as possible. We have been so grateful to the D'Oyley Carte organisation for their funding as this was the key to making the whole scheme possible.

So, back to March 23rd when we actually held what was our third event of this



nature and a wonderful day was had by all. The six young people and their awesome carers lit up the room with their joy and excitement and the day whizzed by. Bodmin and District Woodturners are very grateful to all the people and organisations who have supported our efforts to make these experience days happen and we hope the young people have enjoyed their time with us. Most significantly, we as tutors and helpers have been in awe of the strength and resilience of the young people we have met and the stories they have to tell of their experiences. They and their carers are the true heroes in this story and it has been a privilege to work with them and learn from them. We are already looking forward to another day with some of the younger members of their group later in the year and we hope this link will continue to develop in the future.



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Volunteers required!

Vice Chairman

as the current VC has moved up to the Chairman position at the last AGM

Regional Representative for the Midlands Region

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



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The 18th International Woodturning Seminar will take place at
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from 4-6 October 2024

The event will run from Friday lunchtime to Sunday afternoon.



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Margaret Garrard
UK



Mick Hanbury
UK



The Seminar aims to offer something for turners at all levels from beginner to expert. The programme is guaranteed to inspire, educate and entertain!

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Make this a date in your diary, you won't regret it!



Simon Hope
UK

The seminar is open to AWGB members and non-members alike.

You can book on the website at **awgbwoodturningseminar.co.uk**

Keep an eye on the website & Facebook for more information.

Booking enquiries: Jeff Belcher 07798 746296 seminar@awgb.co.uk

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

We hope you can come along to see us!



www.awgbwoodturningseminar.co.uk

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)

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

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

From overseas IBAN: GB88ABBY09012841132390 (use family name/2024 as reference)

Please send this form (with cheque if appropriate) to: Jeff Belcher Oak House, Hanley Castle, Worcester WR8 0BJ

Tel: 07798 746296 • Email: seminar@awgb.co.uk



**AWGB Seminar Scholarship
Application**
4th – 6th October 2024
(AWGB Members Only)

Name:	
Address:	
Telephone N^o.:	
Email address:	
AWGB membership N^o.:	
Date of Birth: (If under 16 see also page 2)	
Branch/Club: (if applicable)	

Use the box below to tell us why you want a scholarship and how you think it be of benefit to you. You should also give an indication of your financial status (any information given in this regard will be kept confidential). For Junior Members under 16 please consent form overleaf.

The closing date for applications is 30th June 2024. After this date the Trustees will review the applications and award a number of scholarships. The Trustees' decision is final.

Signed:

Date: ... / ... / ...

Data Protection: The information you provide on this form will be used for dealing with your application. 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.

Please return the application form to secretary@awgb.co.uk

Part 2 – Parental Consent Form

This form is used when young people under the age of 16 years of age are participating at the AWGB Seminar. It also provides a record that consent has been given (or not) for photographs to be taken and used.

Young person under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a Parent/Guardian/Carer. As part of the Scholarship award the need for a residential attendance by the Parent/Guardian/ Carer will be considered.

Name of Young Person:	
Age of young person:	
Name of Parent/ Guardian/ Carer:	
Parent/ Guardian/ Carer requests residential attendance:	

To be signed by the Parent/Guardian/Carer

- As the Parent/Guardian/Carer of the young person named above I give consent for him/her* to take part in the event.
- I understand that the AWGB or its representative(s) may wish to take photographs of him/her during the event.
- I understand that these photographs may be used on social media (including Facebook and Twitter); AWGB publications such as Revolutions and the AWGB website; the press, and other woodturning magazines and publications in perpetuity and that these photos may be seen around the world.

I do/do not* give my consent to such photographs being taken and used as described.

Signed Date.....

To be signed by the young person

- I understand that the AWGB or its representative(s) may wish to take photographs of me (*the young person named above*) during the event.
- I understand that these photographs may be used on social media (including Facebook and Twitter); AWGB publications such as Revolutions and the AWGB website; the press, and other woodturning magazines and publications in perpetuity and that these photos may be seen around the world.

I do/do not* give my consent to such photographs being taken and used as described.

Signed Date.....

**delete as appropriate*



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Helping out a friend... a tale of fiddly finials

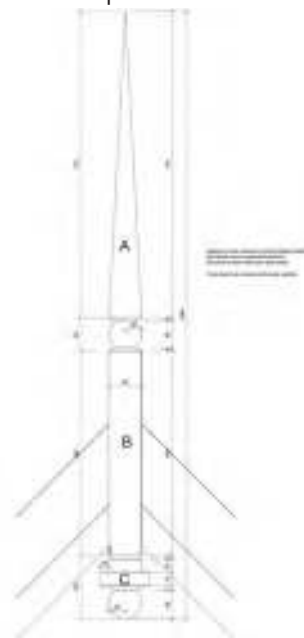
Kris Cietak

Just before Christmas, I had a phone call from a friend of a friend of a friend who heard that I have a lathe and do a bit of bodging and would I consider making a couple of architectural finials for the house he was renovating up north. I must say I was a bit taken back, but having done a couple of small ones before, I said "send me the plans and I'll see what I can do" ..

Just after Christmas, I got an email with an architects drawing and measurements.

I must say, I was a bit taken back because my lathe was an ancient Axminster 950 and I didn't think I could make the finial one piece. Furthermore the bit at the bottom had a square collar which was larger in dimensions than the middle and pointy section at the top.

I got back to Patsy (his nickname) and said that I'd have a go, but it would have to be in three sections and seeing as I had never done anything like that before and it was to survive the English weather, I couldn't guarantee that it wouldn't end up like the famous Church Spire Chesterfield.! I was given the option to cop out, but I decided to have a go, and this is how it went.



Architects finial spec

First of all, I drew the exact dimensions on several joined up pieces of metric graph paper to work out what I needed to order from a local timber merchant and to check that the longest spiky bit (A) would fit on the lathe.

To this I added enough waste wood at both ends to form tenons for holding, as well as an extra 10 cm for a tenon (X) to fit into a mortice in one end of the middle piece (B).

To the middle section I once again added extra at one end for holding, and to create a tenon (Y) to go into the flat bit of C, figuring out that the 10 cm tenon from A (X) would fit in to the mortice at one end of B, and that I would cut a mortice in C into which the tenon at the bottom of B (Y) would fit. (With me so far?)

So for these bits, I needed two pieces of planed Sapele cut to 1000mm by 81mm square (allowing for minor errors). This would do for the spiky bit (A) and two pieces 700mm long, again by 81mm square for the middle bit (B)

As far as the bottom end was concerned (C) this needed to be 120mm square and they don't normally have Sapele planks more than 100mm thick, at least at the timber yard I went to.

The solution was to machine down to 60mm and glue two thicknesses up to size, giving me a 400mm by 120mm square piece which I would then cut in half to give me two blanks and more than enough extra for holding tenons.

Just in case I've lost you, this diagram shows the construction of the finial with black bits showing the tenons.

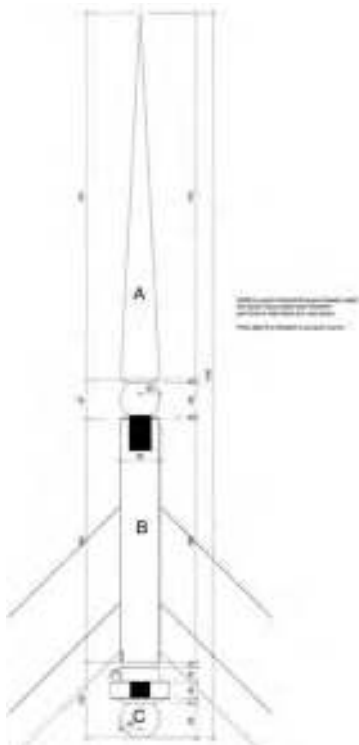
When I came to pay my jaw dropped, I didn't realise prepared timber was so expensive, but then somebody else was going to be paying.! I crossed my fingers that things would turn out right first time round!

Having collected the timber, I had to decide the order to make the individual bits in and how I would hold them on the lathe.

Section B first - why?

Well, I thought the easiest bit to do would be B seeing as all I had to do is mark it out, turn a tenon at one end (Y) and a mortice at the other.

The most challenging bit was to create the 100mm deep mortice. I reckoned the diameter of both tenons should be 46 mm, enough to be chunky and strong between A and B and not too wide between B and C so as not to compromise the sphere at the bottom of C.



The two tenons X & Y

I set my adjustable Fostner bit to this diameter and held it in a morse tapered Jacobs chuck in the tailstock of my lathe. I marked centres at both ends, turned a longish tenon at one end between centres to match my Gripper jaws hoping that I could hold the timber to drill the hole on the lathe with the Fostner in the tailstock. Predictably a total failure! Despite slow revs, the length of the timber allowed too much sideways movement, the hole became bigger than intended and I quickly gave up.

A lot of head scratching followed and then I remembered Good Turns Engineering in Redditch, a wonderful, friendly and extremely helpful outfit run by a chap called Andy who helped me engineer one or two bespoke bits for my lathe before. A chat on the phone and he said "why don't you come over and we'll have a look". And so I did....what lovely people!

Result? problem solved! He used one of his enormous metal drilling machines and my Fostner bit to drill out the mortices, clamping the timber vertically to his massive engineering drill base as shown in the next 3 fotos. I was a happy man!



I got the timbers home, created a friction chuck to fit the hole I had just had made in B and mounted the timber on the lathe. It was to remain square so all I now had to do now

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was chamfer the shoulders around the hole using a sturdy bowl gouge and, using a 10mm square router cutter, create the small groove feature at the tenon end as per the architects drawing. This was done off the lathe, after several test runs on an off-cut to ensure the grooves joined up on all four sides. I left the tenon (Y) for turning down to 46mm later. Finally it was sanded for a good finish.



Friction drive and section B mounted showing tenon Y

Section A

Now for the spiky bit! It has a fat end and a thin end. Both ends were marked up with centres. I cut a tenon (X) to fit my Gripper jaws at one end and a small sacrificial bit at the thin end for the tail stock live centre.

Next the whole lot was turned down to 81mm diameter as per architects drawing, and then carefully marked out using the diagram on the graph paper as a story board. The tapered portion of the finial was marked out in such a way



Spiky bit A - Turning to round

as to give 10mm increments of diameter of the spike, ie at 70,60,50,40,30,20 and 10mm.



Spiky bit A - measured out to cut the grooves down to reducing diameters of taper

For each diameter, callipers were set and a parting tool used to cut down to the appropriate diameter *but to the RH of the pencil line only*. Why this ? - will be clarified in a moment. Using a spindle roughing gouge, the shape was roughed out leaving enough space to mark the *left hand corner* of the parting cut with a pencil so that when it came to do finishing cuts with spindle and skew, this was the diameter down to which each section of the wood was finished, leaving a smooth taper.

Now for the sphere...

First I went back to the headstock end, which held the Gripper jaw fitting tenon (X) and, using the previously made markings, turned a small length down to 46mm, which would be at the base of the sphere, the size I needed to fit into the mortice in B. This would give me more room to manoeuvre when cutting the sphere.

I next cut an 81mm diameter template out of cardboard and

used this to fashion the shape of a sphere, using a spindle gouge and small skew, between the bottom of the spike and the tenon (X).

As mentioned earlier the bottom end of the sphere was 46mm to match the mortice in B. I then reduced the diameter of the rest of the 100mm long tenon (X) to 46mm leaving the Gripper jaw diameter to be removed later prior to assembly. Note that I had gone back to using a step drive, at the head end.



The sphere and finished tenon X. Note the sacrificial bit at the end for the Gripper jaws

Section C

Taking the 120mm squared blank I first mounted it between centres, grain parallel to the lathe bed, and cut a tenon to fit my Gripper jaws. Using this tenon to hold the blank I first cut a 46mm diameter mortice, 30mm deep with my adjustable Fostner bit held in the morse tapered Jacobs chuck in the tailstock. This time it worked perfectly as the blank was short and didn't wobble.

I reversed the blank and using the same friction chuck I used to drive section B together with tailstock support, I turned down to 81mm with a spindle gouge and skew (the diameter of the sphere) and cardboard template, leaving the square lip as per the architectural diagram.



Section C marked out



Section C finished

The final part was to turn and sand both tenons X and Y to fit their respective mortices snugly and trim them to length. Note that I had yet to remove the waste tailstock nubs at the pointed end of the spiky bit A

First finial successful! The result was more than pleasing!

Now I had to do it all over again paying an eagle eye to ensure the second finial was near identical to the first. Eventually job done!



First finial!

The Glueing up

Well - this was another cause for brainstorming. Seeing as the finials were to spend their lives out in the open, high up on a roof, I chose PU glue which would also expand in the joints filling any gaps. But then this expansion could risk pushing the joints apart. The lathe was too short to accommodate the whole finial and prevent this so I decided



Glueing up on the kitchen table

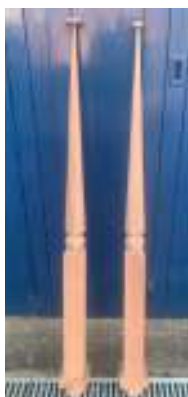
to try our long kitchen table, two blocks of wood clamped at each end and use a Quick Grip in expansion mode.

Seeing as PU glue swells and creeps everywhere while curing, I protected the vulnerable areas around the joins with masking tape and the table with lots of newspaper. Before glueing, grooves were cut in the tenons to allow surplus glue to escape. This was now a one way ticket - any error and it would be impossible to separate the pieces which incidentally I numbered for joint compatibility earlier.



Relief grooves for glue

To help curing, the glue was applied to the tenons and the mortices sprayed with a little water before everything was put together and clamped up. The result - fairly pleasing really, note the waste at the end of each spike. This was cut off and tip hand sanded and finished.



The story doesn't end here - Potsy had given me a delivery date of the end of February. The finials were ready on February 5th. I rang him up with the good news and he said "can you send them up before next Monday - the scaffolding is coming down then" it was Tuesday afternoon!

Did he know special delivery would cost almost £80? "No bother, they're paying!" came the answer. So off they went by Parcel Post and were delivered the next day. He was very pleased, more than me when I saw how they had been fitted on the gable end of the roof!



Sadly they were just stuck on like an ornament instead of being integrated into the roof timbers tiles and lead work! Not what I would have chosen! Ah well! C'est la vie!

Postscript

I learnt so much, patience is essential and thorough planning vital. A step by step approach, thinking twice or even three times about the next move ensured any pitfalls were foreseen and avoided.

Finally, Apologies for all the (A)s (B)s (X)s and (Y)s but when I read some write ups about "how to do" I often lose the plot so I thought these markers would help the reader follow the story.

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Training Update

Masuma Rahim, Training Officer

A great deal of work has taken place since I came into post in November 2023. The Youth Training process is being refined, and we have also been looking at Tutor and Demonstrator training. I thought it might be useful to provide the membership with the following updates:

Member Training Workshops

Chris Parker has kindly taken on the role of Workshops Coordinator. We have a full schedule for this year, details of which can be seen both in the newsletter and on the website. He and I will soon begin planning workshops for 2025, with a good spread of topics across England, Scotland and Wales. If you have specific requests, or if you would like to host a workshop, please email training@awgb.co.uk. Please note that when you apply for a course your name goes into a ballot and that you will only be contacted to confirm your place six weeks before the course takes place. This ensures a fair approach for all members. In cases where workshop spaces become available at short notice, our social media channels will be updated to invite short-notice applications. These workshops are effectively free for members, so I would encourage you to take advantage of them.

Demonstrator Training

Demonstrator Training has been on hiatus in recent times. However, there has recently been considerable interest from members who wish to attend such a day, and Paul Hannaby is presently reviewing the course. We are hoping to be able to run the first sessions later in the summer. If you would be interested in attending, please complete the form here: <https://www.awgb.co.uk/demonstrator-training-application/>

Tutor Assessment

Between 2020 and 2023, there was a significant backlog of people who wished to obtain their Approved Tutor badge but who were unable to do so for logistical reasons. I'm very pleased to tell you that, thanks to Steve Gordon, who preceded me in this role, there is now no backlog. However, there are one or two things which are important to know when you apply for a Tutor Assessment:

Firstly, I do not work for the AWGB full-time. Sadly, I am far too young to be retired, so I do this job in my spare time, which means that there may be a delay between you submitting your form and my suggesting some dates. Secondly, it is not feasible or efficient for me to arrange an assessment for fewer than three people. Many of our assessors (of which more momentarily) travel considerable distances to conduct assessments, so I would typically wait until at least three or four people from the same region have expressed an interest before organising anything.

In terms of the process: once I have enough people who would like an assessment I try to arrange an assessor. They are often busy, so may not be able to give me any dates for some weeks. Once I have some dates I need to organise a venue, which often means liaising with the chair or secretary

of a local club. They then check the diary and tell me what dates the venue is free. Once that is done, I reconfirm that the date still suits the assessor and check whether those who want to be assessed can make that date. Assuming everyone replies in the affirmative (or that they reply at all!) I then confirm the assessment and send the relevant paperwork.

This works well when there is good communication, but it can sometimes be challenging to get responses, and so the process can sometimes be slowed. Rest assured, though: once you have submitted your online application you are On My Spreadsheet and you will be contacted about an assessment as soon as practicable, but there are several steps to the process you may not have been aware of, and so I would appreciate some patience as things are being organised behind the scenes. In short, the best way to ensure your assessment is not delayed is to reply to my emails in a timely manner.

Appointment of Tutor Assessors

As noted, there was, until recently, a backlog of Tutor Assessments. Although we have cleared this, we have come to realise that we are increasingly reliant on a small group of people who are described as Level 2 Assessors: people who can assess those who wish to get their Approved Tutor badges. It is apparent that we need more people to be signed off as Level 2 Assessors, especially in the Southeast, in Wales, and in northern England. As such, the Committee has agreed to appoint a number of Level 3 Assessors, who will be able to sign off existing Tutors as Tutor Assessors. We are appointing around three people per region, all experienced turners and teachers, with the hope that this will reduce the workload on those who currently conduct the lion's share of our Tutor Assessments, and improve efficiency. I am in the process of finalising these Level 3 Assessors (Super-Assessors, perhaps?) and hope to have done so by the time you are reading this.



Attendees at Simon Hope's thread-chasing workshop held at Great Bromley, Essex, on 09 April. Simon is running a course on sphere-turning later in the year. Places can be requested via the website.



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Derbyshire Dales Woodcraft Club – celebrates another successful SEND teaching project

Graham Legg

DDWC have just completed their third year of teaching SEND young people in Long Eaton, Derbyshire. A small group of volunteers have worked every Tuesday morning from September through to Easter, teaching students from Brackenfield SEND School and Stanton Vale SEND School.

The project has certainly challenged our volunteer group of AWGB approved Tutors, with the need for plenty of forward planning, a great deal of "Learning on the job" and we have had lots of fun and laughter on a weekly basis.

Our "Community Outreach" programme has only been possible thanks to the support of Mirka (for providing lots of Abranet!), VoltX (for supplying lots of safety glasses), and Beaufort Ink (for providing some beautiful "Headwind" pen kits).

Each week we set up four lathes and teach a maximum of eight students. We have also been able to add an "Arts and crafts" table, thanks to the fabulous support of our Club member, and professional Pyrography teacher, Kez Halliday. This added dimension to our lesson has given the students a great deal of success, developing their creativity and artistic skills. Kez has taught the students how to safely create any number of pyrographed images, and often uses acrylic paints or felt tip colours to enhance a project.

The woodturning has seen our students develop into competent, skillful and knowledgeable young turners. Our very last teaching session for the year has seen the student group teaching their Teaching Assistants!

By far the most popular project has been pen making. Each week our students have made some beautiful pens, which are supposed to go back to their school and put up for sale. We suspect that a lot have gone home as gifts for the family! Due to the fact that it is very easy to make a fundamental mistake, and quickly ruin a pen blank, we always have plenty of 7mm pen kits available, with the brass barrels already glued in.



Another very successful project has been making a Bud Vase. Here the students have learned how to use a small bowl gouge, sometimes a Skew chisel, a Jacob's chuck and various drill sizes. What is very challenging to the students is how to use their mathematical knowledge ie Applied Mathematics. On occasions we hear, "Oh, that is why we are taught how to do that at school!"

From September up to Christmas the students were allowed to take their first project example home, with additional items being made available for the school Christmas Fair. The pricing of items was a very interesting conversation, with

some greatly over-priced estimates being suggested! Young Enterprise and Entrepreneurial Development was certainly at the forefront of developing business acumen!

After Christmas we concentrated on making bowls, introducing a new set of tools and skills to the students. This has been very successful, with lots of beautiful shapes, finishes and shavings being made. The students love to create the smoothest finish possible, and have been taught how to reduce dust by introducing products such as Lemon Oil, Cut & Polish and Finishing Oil (Thanks Terry Smart and Chestnut Products).

Some of the students now move on to FE College courses, and perhaps they might continue with their new hobby? We look forward now to September, when we will once again work with a group of delightful, polite and caring SEND Young People.

My heartfelt thanks go out to our team of volunteers, namely Julia Bradbury, Kez Halliday, Colin Fishwick, Brian Walker, and David Reynolds.

In order for our project to develop and grow, we are in need of some resources. This includes volunteer Tutors (we need a group of us to be available, four on each Tuesday morning). We are in need of additional mini-lathes (including a box of accessories these cost about £800 each). Finishing products, supplies of bowl blanks, spindle blanks, pen kits etc. are always being sought. Can you help us?

Should this project interest you, please contact Graham Legg (DDWC Safeguarding Officer) via legg.graham@gmail.com





Member Training Workshops

Kate Kitchen

Tingley, Wakefield

11th July 2024

Beginner/Intermediate
Novelty Animals

Dennis Wake

Hartlepool Enterprise Centre, County Durham

7th September 2024

Intermediate
Platter

Colwin Way

Crow Valley Woodturners, The Highway, Croesyceiliog, Wales

27th September 2024

Intermediate/Advanced
German Nut Cracker

Mick Hanbury

Turners Retreat

1st October 2024

Intermediate/Advanced
Bowl & colour

Gary Rance

Wendover, Buckinghamshire

11th October 2024

Beginner/Intermediate
Humming Top

Simon Hope

Great Bromley, Essex

16th October 2024

Intermediate/Advanced
Turning spheres

Chris Parker

Leyland, Lancashire

6th November 2024

Beginner/Intermediate
Texture and colour

These workshops are subject to restrictions at the time and unfortunately may need to be cancelled at short notice. Preference will be given to those that have been allocated places previously that were cancelled. If you have any questions, please contact our Training Officer - email at training@awgb.co.uk.

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.



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