

Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Issue No 151

December 2024

Dont forget to renew your membership!

**see
page 6**



www.awgb.co.uk

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

Corporate Members of the AWGB

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

Ashley Iles (Edge Tools) Ltd

Woodturning and Carving tools traditionally made to a high specification
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Suppliers of quality woodturning products: courses from beginner level to advanced.
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Crown Hand Tools Ltd

Crown offer the largest range of woodturning tools worldwide, combining the perfect mix of tradition and innovation finished to the finest exacting standards. 01142 612300 www.crownhandtools.ltd.uk

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Sales of local and imported timber, woodturning blanks, boards and rustic slabs. Online shop or callers welcome.
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Suppliers of timber, tools, lathes and accessories. 01768 891440 www.toolsandtimber.co.uk

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Klingspor Abrasives Ltd

Klingspor supply a wide range of coated materials for abrasive belts, discs, sheets, rolls and abrasive sponges to cover all woodworking applications. 01909 712310 www.klingspor.co.uk

Lovells Workwear Ltd

Suppliers of protective smocks and aprons which can be personalised. Safety, Comfort, Style. 02920 598327 www.lovellworkwear.com

Martin Pidgen

We supply a large array of different woods for the woodturning trade. Please phone with your requests, we do not have a website but can supply most timbers. 01472 873342

Max Carey Woodturning Trust

A registered charity which aims to educate the public in woodturning. Tuition is provided through a comprehensive range of courses. 07976 402960 www.maxcareywoodturningtrust.org.uk

Mirka (UK) Ltd

Finishing products and tools including abrasive discs, strips and rolls, power tools and accessories 01908 866100 www.mirka.co.uk

O3a – O3 Adhesives

O3a is a dedicated range of Cyanoacrylate Adhesives specifically developed to meet the requirements of makers and crafters. 07711 407950 www.o3adhesives.co.uk

Oaklea Woodcraft

Stocking a wide range of finishes, project kits, tools and blanks for the woodturner and wood carver. 01952 884064 www.oakleawoodcraft.co.uk

Odies Oil UK

Odie's 100% natural, food safe oils & waxes are perfect for bowls & platters, cups, spoons & toys. Suitable for any wood species, interior or exterior. 07778 954682 www.odiesoil.co.uk

Pen Kits Direct Ltd t/a Taylors Mirfield

Specialist woodturning and woodworking shop with classroom in West Yorkshire. We develop high end pen and project kits. 01924 491949 www.taylorsmirfield.co.uk

Robert Sorby Ltd

Manufacturer of woodturning tools, lathes, and accessories, chucks, sharpening systems and accessories, woodcarving and woodturning tools. 0114 225 0700 www.robert-sorby.co.uk

SK Krafts

Buddy Range, 3d printed range of tool and lathe accessories designed to store all your lathe accessories, chuck and much more. 07787 542848 www.skrafts.woodturners.uk

The Tiny Turner

I supply timber, finishes, project kits, tools, resin blanks, faux fur and my own range of chameleon pigments and flakes. 07709 610089 www.thetinyturner.co.uk

Timbersource Ltd

A leading online timber merchant. High quality hardwoods and softwoods for the trade and the public. 01373 489610, www.timbersource.co.uk

Turners Retreat

Complete range of woodturning tools and courses. 01302 744344 www.turners-retreat.co.uk

W.L.West & Sons Ltd.

Offering a wide range of high-quality British, European and exotic woodturning blanks and boards. Also turning and carving tools, finishes and accessories. 01798 861611 www.wlwest.co.uk

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We offer a range of finishes, tools, project and pen kits and wood turning blanks. Discounts available to AWGB members. 07730 791935 www.whayayewood.co.uk

Woodart Products

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Best selling magazine for Woodturners. Suppliers of books, DVDs and magazines. 01273 402871 www.thegmcgroup.com

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Yandle & Sons Ltd

Everything for the Woodturner. 01935 822207 www.yandles.co.uk

Revolutions

Copy deadline for the next edition of Revolutions

1st February 2025

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".

TRUSTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE

Executive President

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chairman@awgb.co.uk

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Vacant

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hs@awgb.co.uk

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07939 371402

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.

Vice Chairman's Notes

Mike Wilson

Taking on the role as Vice Chairman after the very successful seminar at Yarnfield was something I thought I could do and help with the running of AWGB.

Unfortunately, after the Seminar our Chairman Roger was ordered by his doctors to have complete rest and no stress of any sort and just to switch off, subsequently he has now resigned as Chairman and Trustee.

On behalf of the Trustees, volunteers and members thank you Roger for all you have done in various roles in the past year's it has been appreciated and we all wish you well in the future.

The 2024 Seminar was very successful with delegates who came from all over the UK, Ireland and the world. It was great to meet nine Icelandic woodturners who come to join us. We were also able to welcome The Master of the Worshipful Company of Turners who have supported us and developed the teaching of the young turners....our future.

We could not put on this event if it wasn't for the help of the executive and volunteers who did a fantastic job, setting up, filming, clearing up, looking after and setting-up the instant gallery, general enquiries and supporting the day to day requests, that help to make it a success, Thank you very much.

Our trade friends who lent us lathes, equipment and supported us with raffle prizes, general advice, donations and knowledge. Who also supplied those who bought from them with great discounted prices. Thank you very much.

Our demonstrators who came from New Zealand, France, Ireland, Holland and the UK this was what it was all about, fantastic demonstrations and masterclasses for 3 days. Thank you very much.

All the members who came and enjoyed themselves not just woodturning but the friendship, hospitality, and getting to know one another hopefully not too late in the bar.

The standard of the competition was unbelievable, 46 pieces were picked for the travelling gallery which will be split into 2 lots to show the public all over the country, what skills our turners produce and hopefully you will get a chance to see them around the UK in the next 24 months.

On more mundane matters this edition of Revolutions is the last at A4 size and future quarterly editions will be produced at the smaller A5 size you all know how much postage has increase so this will enable us to continue 4 editions a year. Sheila our editor, is always willing to publish your stories, articles, and tips that you feel might be of interest, keep her busy, it's your newsletter.

May I take this opportunity to wish all the very best for 2025 and keep on turning and in the best of health.

Notice is given that the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the
ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
(A Company limited by Guarantee - Company No. 8135399)
will be held
on Sunday 13th April 2025 commencing at 1.00 pm
at
Yarnfield Park, Yarnfield, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 0NL
and via Zoom (internet)

Regarding Trustee positions on the Executive:

The following posts are currently vacant or up for renewal:

- General Trustee
- South West Regional Representative
- Scottish Regional Representative
- Safeguarding Officer

Anyone interested in filling any of these positions or becoming a Trustee should also contact the Secretary at the e-mail address shown below.

Under Section 324 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Articles, a member is entitled to appoint another person as their proxy to exercise all, or any of their rights to attend, speak and vote at the AGM. The appointment must be in writing and notified to the Secretary before the meeting.

A Corporate member may nominate a person to attend on their behalf, in writing to the Secretary, before the meeting.

Attendance

Personal Attendance at the Branch Meeting and AGM is invited but due to reduced numbers attending in recent years we are going to trial a hybrid meeting, In-Person and over Zoom.

Clubs are entitled to nominate 2 members to attend, via either method. These persons are to be identified to the Secretary, including an e-mail address, so they can be forwarded an invitation for the Zoom Meeting or ensure they are expected at Yarnfield on the day.

Branch Meeting

The AGM will be preceded by a meeting of Members and Branch Representatives, which will commence at 10:30 am and be chaired by Michael Wilson, the Vice-Chairman.

Items for the Branch Meeting Agenda

If you have any items you would like to bring up, please inform the Secretary by 15th March 2025 so it can be added to the Agenda.

The Secretary can be contacted at secretary@awgb.co.uk or on 07876 321293

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

(A Company limited by Guarantee - Company No. 8135399)

Will be held
on Sunday 13th April 2025
commencing at 1.00 pm

at

Yarnfield Park, Yarnfield, Stone ST15 0NL

Agenda

Apologies for absence
Matters arising from 2024 AGM minutes
Acceptance of the Minutes of the 2024 AGM
Chairman's report
Treasurer's report for the year ending
31st December 2024
Announcement of the ballot for Trustees.
Vote on appointment of Accountants/Auditors
Resolutions
Any other business

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500, 600)

Offer Price

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Add a
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Hand Sanding
Block & Hose for
£35

Offer subject to availability.

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Tel: 01924 491949 **Email:** sales@taylorsmirfield.co.uk

A Quick Guide to renewing your membership for 2025.

New membership Rates for 2025

Individual UK member £24

Overseas Member £36 sterling

Family membership £36

Here is a quick guide for individual members renewing this year. If you renew through a club please speak to your membership secretary.

Check your current membership card. If it doesn't say 2025 then you need to renew now, using one of the following methods.

Juniors – If you are under 22 on 1st January 2025 then simply send an email to membership@awgb.co.uk with renew as the title, your membership number, and name.

By Cheque

Write your membership number on the back of your cheque and post it to the membership secretary.

You do not need to complete a form or any other paperwork. See page 3 for the address.

Make your cheque payable to 'AWGB'.

Via the website

Complete the on-line form in full – please don't forget the Data protection section.

Complete the payment screen – you do not need a Paypal Account to use this facility.

If you have previously completed a Gift Aid Declaration then you do not need to do so again. Your letter with your new membership card will tell you whether you have signed a Gift Aid Declaration.

If you no longer pay Income tax or Capital Gains tax then please email me to cancel your Gift Aid.

Bank Transfer/ Standing Order

Check the amount of your standing order is **£24** for single members **£36** for family membership. *Please contact your bank to amend your standing order.*

Please remember to do this, as it will save me having to contact you for the additional £3 and save the AWGB administrative costs.

In the payment reference quote your membership number and name eg 12345 /Smith nothing else.

You do not need to complete a form or any other paperwork.

Bank account Santander, Business Account

Sort Code : 09-01-28,

Account Number : 32277785,

Account name: The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

Any queries please to John Peachey the Membership Secretary – membership@awgb.co.uk

We can deliver Revolutions in both paper and electronic pdf format.

All members we have email addresses for will initially receive both formats.

If you would prefer just the paper version or just the electronic version or neither,
or if you want to change your existing preference

email **John Peachey - datamanager@awgb.co.uk** with your choice.



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Association of Woodturners of Great Britain Nomination Paper for the Selection of Trustee's

The AWGB Annual General Meeting will take place at Yarnfield Park on Sunday 13th April 2025.
At this meeting new Trustee's and Regional Representatives are elected. You are invited to nominate Trustee's and Regional Representatives to fill the vacancies.

Nomination for Election of Regional Representative	
There are the following vacancies for Regional Representatives:	
• Scotland • South West	
I would like to nominate myself / the following person for the position of Regional Representative in the	
... .. Region	
Name:	
Branch (if applicable):	
Membership N ^o .:	
I have spoken to the nominated person and they have agreed to their name being put forward.	

Nominators Details (if not self-nominating)	
Your Membership N ^o .:	
You can find this on your membership card or the envelope of your copy of Revolutions.	
Please give the name of the Affiliated Branch to which you belong (if applicable).	
Branch:	
Your Name:	
Signature:	

Note 1: Responses sent via email do not require a signature, the e-mail to which it is attached will be accepted as proof if signature.

Note 2: This information is required only to check that the Nomination have been validly cast and for no other reason.

Nomination for Election as Trustee or Volunteer	
There are 2 vacancies for Trustee's and Volunteer's in the following Positions:	
• General • Safeguarding	
I would like to nominate myself / the following person for the position of Trustee or Volunteer of the AWGB.	
... .. Position	
Name:	
Branch if applicable:	
Membership N ^o .:	
I have spoken to the nominated person and they have agreed to their name being put forward.	

Note 3: A Personal Statement by Nominee's should be appended to this nomination form

Note 4: The Job Specifications for each role can be requested from the Secretary

Please return this form to the AWGB Secretary by:

Direct e-mail to secretary@awgb.co.uk

Scanning as a pdf and e-mailing as above.

Your nomination must be received back, not later than 14th March, which is 4 weeks prior to the AWGB AGM which will be held on 13th April 2025.

Registered Charity 1150255 • www.awgb.co.uk
Company Registered Number: 8135399
Registered Office: 36 Crown Rise, Watford, WD25 0NE

Is it worth buying direct from China?

Robert Postlethwaite

... or should we support UK firms or do they have things made out of UK.

I have to work to a budget with my hobbies and have been buying metal parts and supplies (tools & small metric nuts and bolts etc) direct from China, most have been of a very good quality, the only thing is that they can take several weeks to arrive but sometimes only a few days.

So this is my experience of buying from AliExpress, there are lots of other Chinese web sites that are just as good and of course Ebay which sells stuff direct from China, sometimes the same things but with added postage costs.

From a recent ABWT meeting it was noted that the patent for the Steb centre had run out and other makers were making a similar item, on the internet prices vary from about £5 to over £40 the cheaper one from China.



My lathe needs a 3MT but nobody makes over 2MT but as the present Steb is 2MT and goes in a MT sleeve no problem. So looking on AliExpress a 2MT taper drive centre was about £10 inc postage so one was ordered and when it arrived it worked fine, what can go wrong with a drive centre, the point is nice and long which makes it easy to use.

So how about turning tools, well not so good, a spindle gouge was ordered for £14. It arrived ok, a nice shape but



the so called HSS is soft, it can be shaped with a file, it cut ok but needs sharpening rather often, but what do you expect for £14. Other makers in China may make a better tool so quote the hardness, so I may try another maker but I do have a rather large number of tools.



There was also a comment about the cost of Forstner type bit, well I have used these from China but check out Ebay for similar items, there are carbide tipped Forstner type bits and they cut very well, they produce nice clean holes and the sharp edge lasts a long time. They are hard to sharpen as you need a diamond file to do this. The normal carbon steel ones can be sharpened with a file, but when over heated get soft and some of the cheaper ones do not produce clean holes, one of the reasons for going for these is I wanted the larger sizes and most CS types do not go bigger than 55mm for a reasonable price.

Prices are very good 25mm dia. £2, 65mm dia. £5, 100mm dia. £8, at that price they become a disposable item.

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



CHESTNUT

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Sanding Sealers do several important jobs; forming a seal on the surface of bare wood, filling the open pores so that less of the top coat is needed to achieve a first class finish. Also binding any loose fibres in the wood together and levelling any invisible irregularities to give the best base possible for finishing. Several different sealers available:

1



1 Cellulose Sanding Sealer is the most popular in our range; it's ideal for turners as it dries in minutes, goes on evenly and is compatible with anything that needs a sealer!

2



2 For awkward shapes, or where you just need an easier application, the aerosol version of Cellulose Sanding Sealer has all the benefits listed above in a spray can!

3



3 Shellac Sanding Sealer, a more traditional product, based on meths and shellac; slower drying at about 20 minutes it's still popular with turners and also cabinet makers for application on larger areas. Overcoat with wax or Friction Polish.

4



4 Acrylic Sanding Sealer is water-based, so no flammability and no strong smells. It requires two hours to fully dry; patience is also needed in application but this will be rewarded with a great finish. Use with Acrylic Lacquer, waxes and Friction Polish.

5



5 The aerosol Acrylic Sanding Sealer uses different resins to dry quicker and harder and can be used with Acrylic Gloss and Satin Lacquer, Ebonising Lacquer, waxes and Friction Polish.

See our YouTube channel for more tips!
More information available from your
local stockists or contact us at:

PO Box 260, Stowmarket, IP14 9BX

Tel: 01473 890118

mailroom@chestnutproducts.co.uk

www.chestnutproducts.co.uk



Legacy is in your hands

David Evans

I had been wondering what to do with my grandfather's old wood working tools. He trained as a joiner and had a stint in the Navy during the war. He was an Artificer, helping to maintain the ship. Some of the tools may have travelled with him across the Artic Circle as he and his crew protected trade convoys. After retiring he'd while away hours in his garage working on doll houses, Welsh dressers and front doors.



Always by hand as there was no electricity in the garage located at the end of the garden. The tools are ancient by today's standards. But they will soon appear on the club's sales table. It's good to know that someone may still get some use out of them. My grandfather's legacy living on in someone else's hands.

As woodturners we are custodians and creators of legacy; the tools we inherit or buy and pass on when we're done; the wood we source and shape for our own pleasure or for someone else's; the bowl turning techniques we demonstrate to the next generation of woodturners. On our lathes in our sheds, we breathe new life into something old, unloved and un-shaped.

I was reading an article in the FT Weekend about a gallery owner whose father, a farmer, planted trees for a small wood back in the 1960s. This was considered unusual for a farmer at that time. After he died the wood became the farmer's living legacy. When an 80-foot poplar was felled by lightning his son didn't want it to be just another log pile for the fire. So, he asked a woodturner to create a series of bowls which he now displays in his gallery. In doing this his father's legacy continues to live on in a different form.

Similarly, the tree at Sycamore Gap on Hadrian's Wall in Northumberland that was felled last year. The tree meant many things to many people. Couples got engaged beneath its boughs, the ashes of loved ones were scattered over its



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roots, weary walkers rested in the shade of its leaves. It had stood for generations and was quite literally part of the landscape. Then one day it was gone and the public mourned.

The National Trust has still to decide what to do with the timber from the 200-year-old iconic landmark. Several thousand turned pens available at the nearest gift shop would not only help boost the Trust's coffers but would allow everyone to own a little piece of history. It would ensure the Sycamore tree's legacy lives on.

Tools, treen and ornaments are tangible items. They will one day break or fall out of favour. Yet our skills as woodturners are intangible and will never break. As a club we pass this on to new members through our various training programmes and to members of the public with demonstrations at village fairs.

Our club night demos are opportunity for experienced craftspeople to pass on their skills and yes, their legacy. Their hope, although unspoken, is that some of us may copy their techniques and in doing so, in a small way, that person's legacy lives on. The next time you pick up a tool or piece of wood off the sales bench spare a thought for the journey it has taken and of the person who held it before you. And the next time you turn a piece of wood into something you're pleased with, stand back and take a moment. You've just created a piece of your own legacy.

David Evans works for NHS England and is new to woodturning.

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:

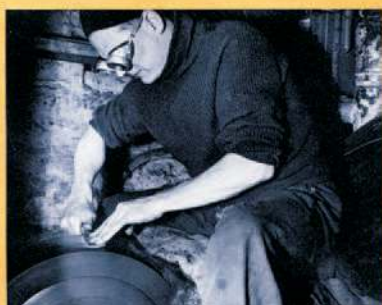
Download the 'Commissions Tuition
Demonstration Register Application
form' on the website, fill it in and
e-mail it to the
AWGB Data Manager.

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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A Day in the Forest

Stuart Clarke

A few months ago, I was asked to circulate to our club members, the Avon and Bristol Woodturners, an invitation from the nearby Forest of Dean Turners to attend a whole day demonstration by Chris Parker, otherwise known as the Bald Woodturner. Chris was someone that I was only peripherally aware of and had not really seen much of his work and had only watched a single demonstration via a multi-national Zoom event back in lock down. However, I knew that he was into texturing and colouring and these are two aspects of the hobby that I'm very interested in and therefore, thinking that this might be a very popular event and that spaces might be limited, I promptly put through my request for a ticket and diarised the date.



The Forest of Dean club are just across the Severn from Bristol and so I travelled up the M5 to Gloucester and then into Herefordshire along the A40 towards their meeting place near Ross-On-Wye. The drive only took about 50 minutes on a grey, wet Sunday morning, but I was anticipating Chris adding a little colour to my day, and likely some texture!

To my surprise there were less than a dozen people at the village hall where the Forest Turners meet and, apart from myself, there was only one other person from another club. I thought it was a shame that more turners from the local and surrounding clubs had not supported this event, which obviously took some effort to organise, but on the positive side, it meant that it was a very exclusive demonstration by Chris who had travelled some 180+ miles down from Lancashire.

Chris started with a brief introduction and would break the day up into sections to demonstrate a number of different turning and texturing techniques.

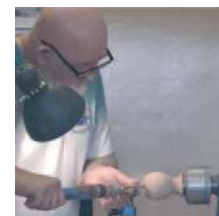
The first session was to turn a small off-centre winged bowl from a thin oblong of spalted Beech that was a great demonstration in itself. Apart from being inspired by this lovely little piece, I also took away a couple of great tips. The first was to play a strong spotlight on the face of the piece so that you could see the shadow of your scraper approaching the spinning blur when trying to finish the off-centre wing. Simple but very effective.



With this method it was easy to judge the point of contact with the ghosting wood rather than hesitantly guessing as I have previously done. The second tip was to cut a small ledge (as shown) on the bowl face to enable easy mounting on the chuck when reversing the piece to finish off the bottom. Initially I had thought this was just a design choice when creating the bowl and hadn't realised the secondary use until Chris reversed it in the chuck.



Chris then used a rotary tool with several different shaped and sized burs to demonstrate different texturing effects on the face, side grain, bottom and with differing angles to give a stippled and textured surface, perhaps reminiscent of crocodile skin or the moon's surface? I really liked the effect and kept picking up the finished piece throughout the day to have another look. To me it had both a visual and textural appeal and so I have added it to my ever-growing list of techniques to try, perhaps even adding a little colour and dry brushing to highlight the effect.... hmmmm!



After a short coffee/tea break Chris then turned and hollowed a small cup and used a power carver to texture the outside surface with a rippled texture that was very tactile and somewhat like a walnut shell effect. The carver made very quick work of texturing the surface but, to me, it seemed a somewhat unwieldy and very loud tool for this purpose and probably out of my price range for just a texturing tool! It was, however, very effective!

Lunch was provided by our hosts by way of a very tasty hot pork, stuffing and apple sauce roll and a chance to chat with some of the club members, which seemed to include a high proportion of demonstrators and AWGB past/present officers. It was apparent that there was a lot of knowledge, skill and enthusiasm amongst the small group and it was a really interesting and welcoming club amongst whom to spend the lunch break and the day.



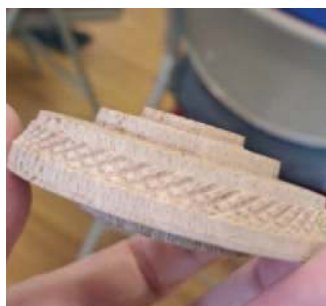
The afternoon sessions mainly consisted of Chris demonstrating an innumerable variety of surface textures created using a Sorby texturing tool with just a couple of different wheels, one for texturing and one for spiralling.

Chris had prepared several pre-turned flat disks, simulating lids, upon which to show how different texture effects could be produced with simple changes in angle and presentation of the tool.

I have the exact tool that Chris was demonstrating and knew that different effects could be obtained with the texturing tool but had not really experimented much beyond what I could already do. Chris was clearly very experienced and knowledgeable with its use and so, to me, this was a very interesting demonstration and I'm afraid that I might have asked toooooo many questions to clarify detail of what he was doing.

It was fascinating how many different effects could be obtained with just one tool and if I can recall half of the different methods he demonstrated I shall be a happy chappy! However, I really need to spend some time practicing with the tool to reinforce the multitude of effects Chris could produce. Another item added to the ever-growing list of things to do!

In conclusion, it was a rare opportunity to watch and interact with an interesting demonstrator on a virtually one-to-one basis and I'm surprised more people didn't take advantage of this event. The Forest of Dean club members were very welcoming and it was a great day all round.



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at secretary@awgb.co.uk

Clock and Jewellery Box

David Ritchie

The main body

It is said that the last thing a lady looks at, at night and the first thing in the morning - is the time. Perhaps that's why a bedside/dressing table clock with a small jewellery box is so popular.

This particular piece was turned from Walnut but any hard wood will do, it's nice if it can be made from one piece to match the grain, unfortunately this was two off cuts which had similar grain.

The spigot was turned down to become a foot, but within the parameters of the chuck, from a safety point of view I measure the chuck and then check the spigot size with the lathe stationary.

A rough shape of the outline was made and the size of the hinge marked on the face.

Using a parting tool the recess was cut square to allow remounting, before removing the centre.

To avoid a "whoops" cut the depth required was measured and transferred to a drill don't remove too much as you need to consider the balance of the piece when the lid is open, so keep enough weight in the bottom.

With the depth marked on the forstner bit with masking tape the centre can be removed with confidence knowing you have checked the depth, allowed for the weight of the top, and the point of the drill bit.

Having removed the majority with the drill I like to use a Simon Hope curved head hollowing tool with a 6mm cutter to remove the material using a pull cut starting from the centre, but stopping just short, about 4mm, of the recess previously cut.

When cutting any form of recess being able to see what you are doing is paramount, there will be projects in the



future where this is not possible but when you can please do, as this not only enhances your shape but is safer. The tool is held at about 45 degrees and is pulled with very little pressure shaping the inside as you progress.

These LEDs are not expensive and are magnetic so that they can be positioned on the inside of the tool rest.

Please ensure that you keep the loose cable out of the way perhaps retain with masking tape, I find they last for years but don't like being caught by a piece of revolving wood.

Measure the inside and outside diameter of the hinge.

Please note that on these hinges the butterfly clasp overhangs the bottom section so space must be made to accommodate this. This hinge is 80mm overall 76mm to the inside of the edges and 70mm across the inside.

The clock is 65mm across the bezel which protrudes 13 mm from the back approximately 10mm of this will protrude into the box.

Although we have not got to the top yet it is worth measuring the clock you intend to use so that you can appreciate the considerations you need to make. This one requires a 18mm recess.

With the above measurements in mind complete shaping the outside, using a 6mm bowl gouge and I use a pull cut with the edge of a finger nail profile spindle gouge to finalise the shape, but please use whatever you feel comfortable with. Ensure the lip to hold the hinge is clean and gives a tight fit.

Keep trying the fit until you are happy taking very light cuts and remember to leave enough clearance for the butterfly clasp when its closed.

There is a saying when caring for a baby don't put your finger where your elbow won't go. The same applies to sanding, this stick with a piece of 180 grit taped to the end may look crude but it saves an accident when sanding recesses you should now reverse the piece and sand through all grits to at least 400.



The top section

Turn a spigot on the top section as you did the base and mark out.

1 the size of the hole for the clock recess;

2 the diameter of the inside of the ring;

3 the outer ring diameter;

As you progress through these section its important to "trial fit" each piece at each stage you can't glue it back on!

Removing the 18mm depth for the clock I do this with a sharp parting tool, keeping the edges straight and 56mm in diameter, allow say 1.5mm extra to accommodate the clock side springs. Ensure the edge where the clock sits is square and all parts are clean.

Frequent dry fittings should be made to avoid problems when gluing up.

The top can now be reversed in the chuck, shaped and the design of your choice made.

The main thing to remember is the weight, making it as light as possible helps stability when the top is in the upright position displaying the time.

Check with an assembled dry run with the clock displaying the time.

There are ways of compensating for incorrect weight, where the whole thing falls over backwards, but that's only for those who don't follow instructions.

When applying a sealer ensure nothing gets onto the area to take the glue. I find that small jars' are good for this.

When the sealer is completely dry, I prefer to leave overnight, gently cut back with 600grit before applying your final finish.

Don't forget the inside, for this piece I used Hampshire Sheen High Gloss held in the chuck by the foot and protected from the jaws using a piece of rubber mat.



Gorilla wood glue was my preferred adhesive, it sets quickly and any excess can be removed with a damp cloth

I like to keep it under pressure for an hour or so and have lined the vice with strips of leather to avoid marks.

Having glued the top the whole thing was inverted over a foam mat and a weight positioned until set.

No doubt you will develop your own jigs and methods, the point is it needs to be under pressure until the adhesive goes off

Finally insert the clock and make someone happy on time.

Happy turning.



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How big is the bird.

Mike Wilson

Last year I was contacted by my chimney sweep who cleans the wood burner in my workshop, he also does all the chimneys for the National Trust Houses and Castles in North Wales and there are lots of them. One of them is Plas Newydd home of the Marquis of Anglesey.

They attract thousands of visitors every year and one of the high points is Easter, to start the season off they have a major Easter Egg Hunt. They wanted to do something different so decided to include a Giant Birds Nest asking Dion did he know a good local woodturner who could turn giant eggs. So the story starts.

Saying yes on the understanding they provided the wood, Sycamore would be great, 2 days later 3 chunks arrived in the back of the sweeps van, they varied in weight between 45 and 67 kilos.



The original plan was to cut them into rough shape with a chain saw, which seemed a good idea at the time unfortunately this did not work out, the balance was off and having no experience as a chain saw carver I decided the



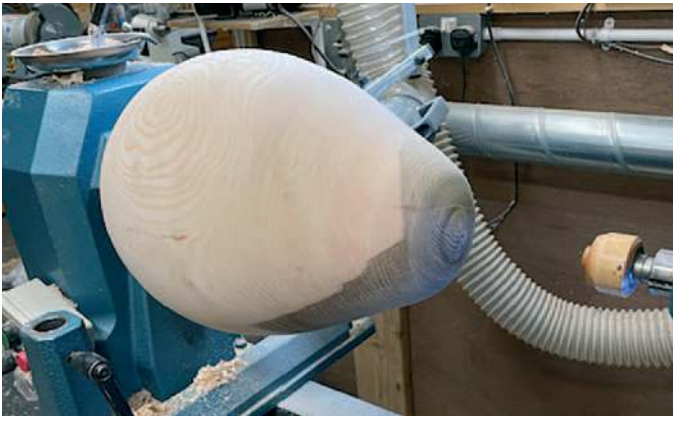
best way was to get the lumps of wood ,mounted on to my Vicmarc 300 and chain saw with a Stihl battery chainsaw into a rough shape.



Sounds a great plan, so I fitted a large 16 screw face plate ... have you ever tried to lift 57 kilos of soaking wet wood with a faceplate fitted on to the head stock having only had one Weetabix that morning?

Quick phone call to Dion, and onto the lathe, faceplate secured, tail stock in to secure, rough turned then the fun started, as you will see in the photographs soaking wet gear was needed.





The markings in the Sycamore was surprising I subsequently found out from the Head Gardener that it was a type of fungus, so the tree had been condemned.



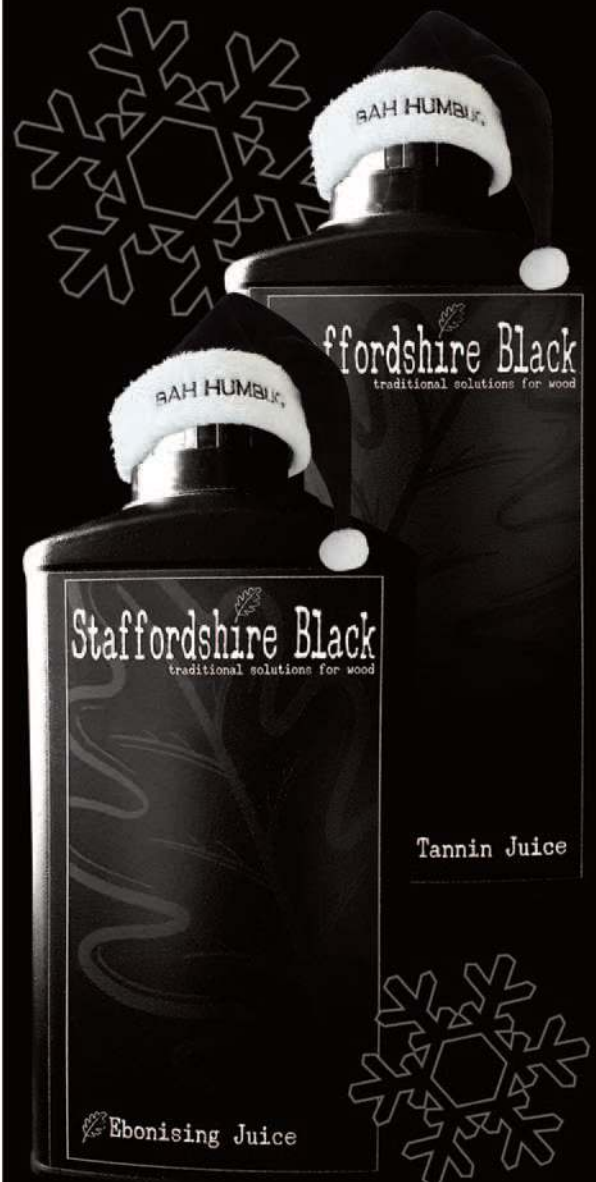
In the photograph you can see the size compared with a boiled egg so don't know "How Big the Bird Would Be".

The bird's nest was built by the gardeners as the centre point of the hunt. Overall a great woodturning experience.



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Member Training Workshops

Katie Armstrong

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Colwin Way

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25th March 2025

Basic/Intermediate
Fruit

Dennis Wake

Hartlepool

26th April 2025

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Trinket Box

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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We are also happy to receive other articles, such as has your Club held a Youth Training Day for the Scouts, Guides, a local school?

Please write it up, with photographs, and send it to

editor@awgb.co.uk

Pieces chosen from the Instant Gallery at the Seminar for the AWGB Travelling Gallery



Andy James



Andy James



Barry Starkey



Colin Smith



Colin Smith



Darrell Rushworth



Darrell Rushworth



Darren Smith



David Appleby



David Appleby



David Moore



David Moore



Derek Watson



Emma Cook



Graham Brooks

Pieces chosen from the Instant Gallery at the Seminar for the AWGB Travelling Gallery



Graham Brooks



Jeff Belcher



Jeff Belcher



Joey Richardson



John Burston



John Burston



Kade Bolger



Malcolm Douglas



Malcolm Douglas



Marcel Vanberkel



Margaret Garrard



Margaret Garrard



Margaret Garrard



Richard Peers



Roger Cutler

Pieces chosen from the Instant Gallery at the Seminar for the AWGB Travelling Gallery



Roger Cutler



Simon Hope



Simon Hope



Simon Mason



Stanley Bryan



Stanley Bryan



Stephen Kearvell



Steven Gordon



Stewart Furini



Ted Gill



Ted Gill



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