

Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Issue No 144

March 2023

Dont forget to renew your membership!



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Front Cover

Asociacion de Amigos
da Madeira de As Pontes
More details page 8

Revolutions

Copy deadline for the next
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1st May 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".

TRUSTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE

Executive President

Joey Richardson

Chairman

Russell Gibbs
121 St Georges Ave, Daisy Hill
Bolton BL5 2EZ
07802 916 967
chairman@awgb.co.uk

Vice Chairman

Dave Atkinson
87 Whirley Road, Macclesfield
SK10 3JW
07810 648344
vicechair@awgb.co.uk

Treasurer

Mike Mansfield
27 Grenville Meadows, Lostwithiel,
Cornwall PL22 0JS
01208 872012
07799 065397
treasurer@awgb.co.uk

Secretary

Bryan Milham
13 Manor Gardens
Locking, Weston-Super-Mare
BS24 8DQ
07876 321 293
secretary@awgb.co.uk

Assistant Treasurer

Jeff Belcher
Oak House, Hanley Castle,
Worcestershire WR8 0BJ
07798 746296
asst-treasurer@awgb.co.uk

Membership Secretary & Data Manager

John Peachey
37a Oxstalls Lane, Longlevens
Gloucester GL2 9HP
01452 525976
membership@awgb.co.uk or
datamanager@awgb.co.uk

Trade & Business Officer

Roger Cutler
14 St. John Street, Creetown
Dumfries Galloway DG8 7JF
01671 820832
trade@awgb.co.uk

2024 Seminar Bookings Co-ordinator

Jeff Belcher
Oak House, Hanley Castle,
Worcestershire WR8 0BJ
07798 746296
seminar@awgb.co.uk

REGIONAL REPS

Scotland

Darren Crisp
40 Andrew Baxter Avenue
Ashgill, Larkhall, ML9 3RG
07507 178986
scotrep@awgb.co.uk

North

Paul Otter
07913 946839
northrep@awgb.co.uk

Midlands

Barrie Fisher
11 Blowers Green Crescent
Dudley DY2 8XQ
07749 371302
midlandrep@awgb.co.uk

South West

Mark Beckett
Bude, Cornwall
07743 214353
swrep@awgb.co.uk

South East

Vacant
serep@awgb.co.uk

VOLUNTEERS

Development & Workshop Officer

Steve Gordon
16 School Avenue, Salford Priors
Evesham WR11 8XB
07939 371 420
development@awgb.co.uk
workshops@awgb.co.uk

Youth Training

Ron Caddy
The Studio, 23 Wisley Road
Andover SP10 3UQ
07903 313065
youthtraining@awgb.co.uk

Webmaster

Colin Spencer
webmaster@awgb.co.uk

Newsletter Editor

Sheila Hughes
Alicia, Tytherleigh
Axminster EX13 7BQ
01460 221448
07768 373086
editor@awgb.co.uk

Health & Safety Officer

Martin Dickinson
3 Ryslaw Farm Cottages, Duns
TD11 3HX
01890 840635
hs@awgb.co.uk

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

Happy New Year to all of our members, feels a little bit late but this is my first opportunity to wish all of you well in 2023. Hopefully when you read this there will be signs of Spring in the air and for those without heated workshops a chance to get more time at the lathe.

As announced in the last issue of Revolutions, you should note that the AWGB AGM will be held on Sunday the 30th April at 13:00 in The Runway Room, Foundation House, Masons Road, Stratford upon Avon, CV37 9NF. This will be preceded at 10:00 by a meeting of members and Branch Representatives chaired by myself.

Back in November, which seems a long time ago now I was lucky enough to attend the Harrogate Show with the Northern half of the Instant Gallery selection of 25 chosen items from the 2022 Seminar. It was a great opportunity to meet friends both existing and new in a great atmosphere. Assisting on the AWGB stand were Trade & Business officer, Roger Cutler, his wife Liz, ex Midlands Rep Pat Murphy and our new Northern Rep Paul Otter. I think all would agree that we had a lot of interest and many great conversations were had to clarify points and give guidance to clubs and individuals. We had eight new members sign up and requests to visit a couple of clubs, if you have any questions then do not hesitate to contact your Regional Representative or any member of the Executive.

We have been joined on the Executive by Paul Otter as the newly appointed Northern representative and re-joined by our ex-Chairman Dave Atkinson who has volunteered his extensive knowledge to be our Vice Chairman, I hope that you will contact them as necessary and welcome them back on board.

Stop Press news, Barry Fisher has agreed to take on the vacant role of Region Representative for the Midlands region.

Following the success of last year's Seminar, work is in hand for the 2024 AWGB International Woodturning Seminar with the same location, Yarnfield Park, Staffordshire, having been booked for the 4th to 6th October 2024. The Executive has chosen the 10 demonstrators they would like to engage and invitations have been sent to them, we await their availability and will announce as soon as possible.

March 10th & 11th will see the Association attending the Midlands Woodworking Show at the Newark Showground manning a stand and hopefully meeting more members.

Work has been undertaken to clarify the way that the Certificate in Woodturning process with respect to the AWGB and agreement gained with the Worshipful Company of Turners (WCT). It should be noted that this is a WCT initiative which the AWGB supports by offering financial support to a limited number of members upon completion.

Don't forget that the Association has a number of grant schemes to help both clubs and individuals, the grant structure and application forms can be found on the AWGB web site at <https://www.awgb.co.uk/documents/>. Requests



for grants has been quite quiet in the last few months, a Poolewood lathe that had been put out as a loan lathe has been recently returned and reallocated on loan to a new member.

There have been a number of enquiries about taking up Regional Representative roles and we will use these to fill vacant positions.

Our programme of Member Training Workshops continues to thrive with, as I write, thirteen events advertised on the website <https://www.awgb.co.uk/training/training-workshop-dates/>. There are also 2 Youth training events advertised, <https://www.awgb.co.uk/training/youth-training/>, don't forget membership of the AWGB for under 21's is free.

Instructor training to gain the coveted AWGB Tutor Badge continues apace with 20 being awarded to date this year with more courses organised, we believe that this award should be attempted by all those tutoring in clubs and at home with friends to ensure that a comparable level of training can be given across the craft.

Demonstrator training courses have been under review and final touches are being agreed by our development team, members on the waiting list are being kept informed we hope to recommence this course very soon.

I have been keeping in contact with our sister organisations the Worshipful Company of Turners and the Register of Professional Turners to ensure that our various offerings map together without overlap.

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

In Mid-January I had the opportunity to join Paul Otter (North Rep) on a visit to Trafford Woodturning Club and received a very warm welcome, we were given the chance to explain what the AWGB is about on a club or individual basis, discussed benefit of their Associated Club becoming an Affiliated Club.

The Executive has been reviewing our merchandising offering and we have recently added a reusable insulated Tea/Coffee mug with a screw on lid (no more shaving flavoured tea). The mug will be sold at events around the country and will be available at the Midlands Woodworking Show and also at the AGM. The small metal Pin Badge is having a design review and hopefully will be on sale soon.

Finally, as always, we are on the look out for people to assist with the running of the Association and in particular we are looking for someone with Social Media skills (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) to spread the word to both members and non-members. If you would like to help in any way, please contact myself or a member of the Executive (contact details on Page 3 of this newsletter)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the **ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS** **OF GREAT BRITAIN**

(A Company limited by Guarantee
Company No. 8135399)

Will be held at
**Runway Room, Foundation House,
Masons Road, Stratford upon Avon,
CV37 9NF**

on
On Sunday 30th April 2023
commencing at 1.00 pm

Agenda

Apologies for absence
Acceptance of the minutes of the 2022 AGM
Matters arising from 2022 AGM minutes
Treasurer's report for the year ending
31st December 2022
Chairman's report
Announcement of the ballot for Trustees
Vote on appointment of Accountants/Auditors
Result of ballot on any Resolutions
Any other business

**If you are attending either or both meetings,
please notify the Secretary by 15th March 2023**



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James S. Pearson

Chairman of Strathclyde Woodturners.

It is with great sadness that I report the death of James Pearson (Jim), Chairman of Strathclyde Woodturners and personal friend, on 22nd November 2022.

After a career in engineering, including running his own business where he designed and oversaw the installation of the wave machine in Disney Florida amongst other things, Jim took up woodturning. He was given a course with the late Allan Batty as a birthday present and was hooked.

Soon after, he joined Scotswood woodturning club and the AWGB. In early 2002 when Scotswood folded, Jim and a few others formed Strathclyde Woodturners with Jim as Chairman. He undertook many other roles within the club, promoting it wherever he could at woodturning shows and other venues.

He was a regular on the AWGB Talking Turning sessions & will be remembered for his unique take on things and curiosity as to how things worked. He thought nothing of challenging the design if he thought it could be bettered. He was usually right! He was also author of several articles for Revolutions as well as Woodturning magazine.

Jim & his wife Alice embarked on more than one of the woodturning cruises. On one he met and was inspired by Johannus Mickelson. He was the proud owner of a signed miniature hat made by Johannus and then, after some further training from Andrew Hall, turned many wooden hats including his own full sized one which he proudly wore whenever the opportunity arose.

He will be sadly missed by club members and those around the world who knew him.

Condolences go to Alice and family.

John McNay

SNANTON

WOODWORKING SUPPLIES

Snainton Woodworking Supplies, one of our corporate members will close for business on 6 April 2023. Basically they are a family business and want to have more quality time in their lives.

We send them good wishes for their future and thank them for their support over the years on behalf of the AWGB and the Membership.

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An Everyday Tale of a Rural Woodturning Club

Peter Dennis

Reinvigoration. Well, that's what we called it when we asked the AWGB to help us do something about our declining membership.

Covid now feels like a thing of the past but for Herefordshire Woodturners just a year ago it was the cause of all our problems – disenchantment with zoom meetings, over half of our members not renewing their membership, low morale, and an uncertain future.

We even discussed closing the club for a year but eventually reality won as we knew that if we closed we'd never reopen.

I suspect that we were no different from many other clubs across the country but being in a rural location we had no pool of population to lobby so we decided that we would have to get out and about across the county to meet as many people as possible and let them know that, if not thriving, we at least existed.

We'd done a few 'shows' in the past with variable results but Herefordshire is blessed with a multitude of agricultural and community events so we decided that we'd give it another go – but this time on steroids.

We'd need a marquee/tent/gazebo of some sort, a card reader to take payments, tables, cloths, banners, flyers to give out, a small lathe to give live demonstrations, stuff to sell and above all volunteers to make it all happen. We also took the brave decision not to do it on the cheap – if it worked we'd want it for the next year and the year after that.

All this would seriously deplete our reserves. We could just about afford it, putting other plans like installing a hearing loop and upgrading our audio visual kit onto the back burner – we wouldn't need them if this didn't succeed. So, we raided the piggy bank, put an application into the AWGB for a discretionary grant in the hope of getting something to offset the costs, booked five shows and we were ready to go.



First off, a Young Farmers rally in the South of the county. We'd borrowed a small gazebo, as our new one was yet to be delivered, and duly arrived to set up in one of the biggest farmyards I'd ever been in. Were young farmers even interested in woodturning? It turned out that some of them were, a few said they'd think about coming along to a meeting but even fewer bought anything so not the best of starts to our campaign.



Next up was Bromyard, a two day show. Getting better, some positive interest in the club, an invitation to take part in a local event, offers of free wood, and some sales to help offset the costs.



Then we moved on to Tenbury Wells and Kington. Thankfully great weather and good crowds – even a celebrity buying one of our prized bowls.

More interest, more sales and by now some of the early promises coming to fruition with new faces looking tentatively around our door on club nights.



Just passing by

We rounded off our year with a Christmas Fair in Leominster. Our volunteers muffled up against the cold, taking it in turns to go for a hot drink but the best sales of the year with a roaring trade in Christmas ornaments.

So our gamble has paid off. We've doubled our membership from the beginning of the year to fifty five which is more than pre covid. The AWGB came through with a grant – sincere thanks to them, and with the takings from the sales of our

turnings, we now only have a small dent in our reserves rather than a big hole.

Just a few serious thoughts about any club that wants to try this route. You need a core of committed volunteers. Everybody doesn't have to be there all day – take turns to go for a break as it's harder on the feet than you might imagine. You also have to be proactive in talking to the people that come to look at your work – we got better at it as the year went on and live demonstrations on a lathe certainly attracts people (the more shavings the better!)

All in all, looking back, we've learnt a lot and had a great year. The club is thriving and we're getting ready to be out and about again in 2023.

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Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

Development and Training

Young Turners Training Programme

Date	Topic/Technique	Instructor	Venue
March 25th 2023	Woodturning	Paul Hannaby Derek Puplett	Street Forge, Eye, Suffolk
April 29th 2023	Various Projects and techniques Workshop Health & Safety	Gary Rance Duncan Gray	Road Farm, Great Missenden Bucks
August 12th 2023	Various Projects and techniques Workshop Health & Safety	Les Thorne	The Woodturners Shop, Four Marks Hampshire
November 25th 2023	Various Projects and techniques Workshop Health & Safety	Les Thorne	The Woodturners Shop, Four Marks Hampshire

Applications are invited for places by 12-21 year old Young Turners on
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For application forms and information visit... www.awgb.co.uk

Or contact... Ron Caddy - 07903 313065 e-mail youthtraining@awgb.co.uk

Asociacion de Amigos da Madeira de As Pontes

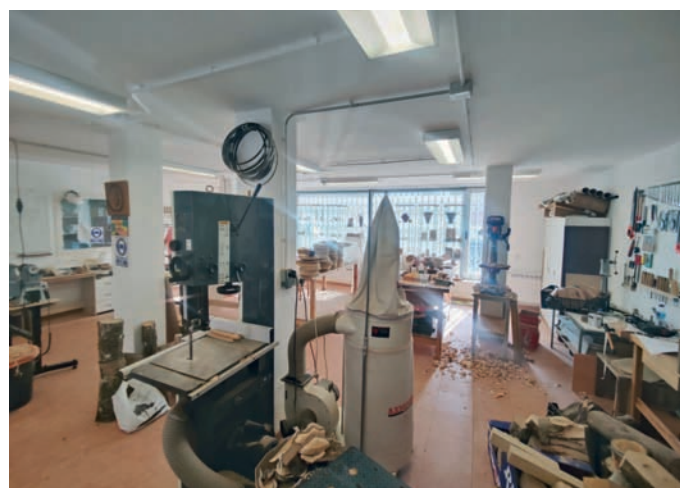
Paul Hannaby

In September 2022 I was fortunate to be invited to be one of the demonstrators at the "Encontro de Torneiros de Madeira" in Galicia, North-West Spain. After the seminar had ended, we were invited by Alfonso Franco to visit the club which must be the most distant associated club from the five mainland UK regions – the "Asociacion de Amigos da Madeira de As Pontes". Keen to find out more about the local turning scene I jumped at the chance. My wife Jeanette accompanied me on the visit and we met up with Ron Wicks from the West Sussex Club who has been a regular at the Encontro for many years.

On arriving at the club we were met with a large modern circular complex with a covered central atrium, surrounded by individual units.



One of these units was the home of the club. At the entrance to the complex was a plaque with an inscription saying that the building was rehabilitated, for the enjoyment of the neighbours, as a socio-cultural centre.



The unit used by the club houses a permanent workshop which contained a number of lathes and other essential machines such as bandsaw; pillar drill; sharpening equipment; various hand tools and a wood store with mostly logs of locally grown wood. The workshop appeared light, spacious and airy – one many clubs would be envious of! The selection of lathes included some familiar machines but



there was also an old wooden lathe which had a motor attached and was used for spindle turning projects. Most of the tools were familiar but there was one thing I spotted which I don't think gets much use in the UK – that was the tool rest with grooves cut in the top surface. These were for use with a hook tool, something I saw admirably demonstrated by Lolo Castro, one of the other demonstrators at the Seminar. Lolo used the hook tool for almost everything and was very proficient with it!



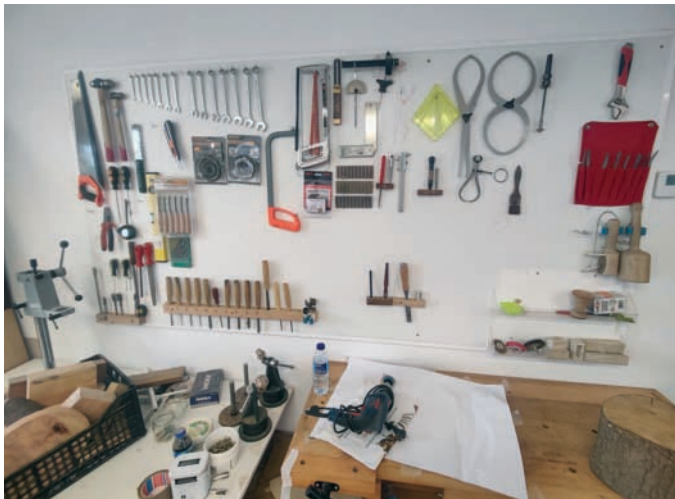
I was informed that the club was open most days. One or two days a week were set aside for training sessions for club members and on the remaining days, the facilities were available for club members to book a lathe for their own use as many club members don't have their own lathe.



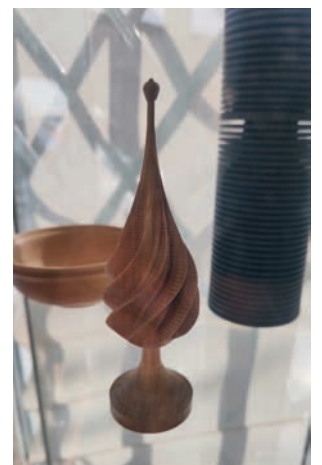


brought in. I thought these were a great idea but I'm not sure I'm organised enough to do the same in my workshop!

I would like to thank the members of the club for their hospitality and for showing me round their workshop. Perhaps I will visit again one day!



In the workshop there were some display cabinets which housed examples of members work. There were examples of all sorts of turning from simple pieces to carved work, artistic projects, segmented work, utilitarian work and a plethora of other pieces. Again, an array of work any club would be proud of! I also noticed a "library" of wood samples, each with the type of wood written on them to assist with identifying other pieces of wood



An Alternative Friction Drive Centre

Colin Hovland

I recently read an article in an AAW magazine entitled, "Shopmade Cup Centres". After obtaining a stub arbor, I proceeded to make one for myself. I already use a Friction Drive centre from Reg Sherwin, which I find is very good for when I'm teaching. The main differences with the one that I made, is that the diameter of the ring drive is 7/8" instead of 5/8" in the Sherwin drive centre, and uniquely, has a 1/8" diameter straight pin projecting a 1/4" from its face. This also increases accuracy in centering if the wood is reversed end for end.



Photo 1. shows the tools I used in the making, including a suitable drill bit for the size of pin. I used a masonry nail to make the pin. With a 1/8" bit in the tailstock chuck I drilled

the centre 3/4" deep. The tool used for the recessing and profiling was a 3/8" square section HSS scraper.

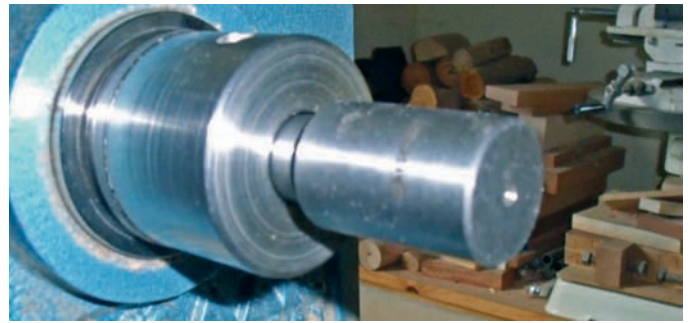


Photo 2. shows the arbor mounted in the lathe ready for working. With the lathe speed around 500 rpm, my 3/8" scraper was all that was required to complete the shaping.



Photo 3. shows the job completed. The stub arbor is 1" in diameter which allows a tapered circular rim of 7/8" diameter, to be in contact with the wood. The tool rest needs

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to be adjusted to a height which will allow the tool to cut in line with the centre of the rotating arbor.

A depth of 1/8" will be fine for the recess, and the slope coming up to the rim is not critical. I have a slight negative rake on my scraper, and I found that the tool cuts well with the grinding burr removed. I used Araldite to fix the pin in place, making sure that the point projected no further than 1/4" from the top of the ring.

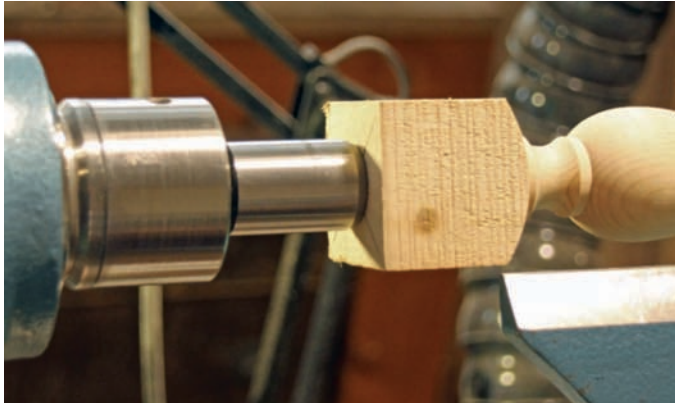


Photo 4. shows the drive centre in use.



Photo 5. has the Sherwin centre on the left, with mine in the middle, and on the right is a blank arbor.

You will notice in photo 3. I had later filed the centre pin to a point.

The stub arbors are available from Axminster Power Tools. Order No. 340307.

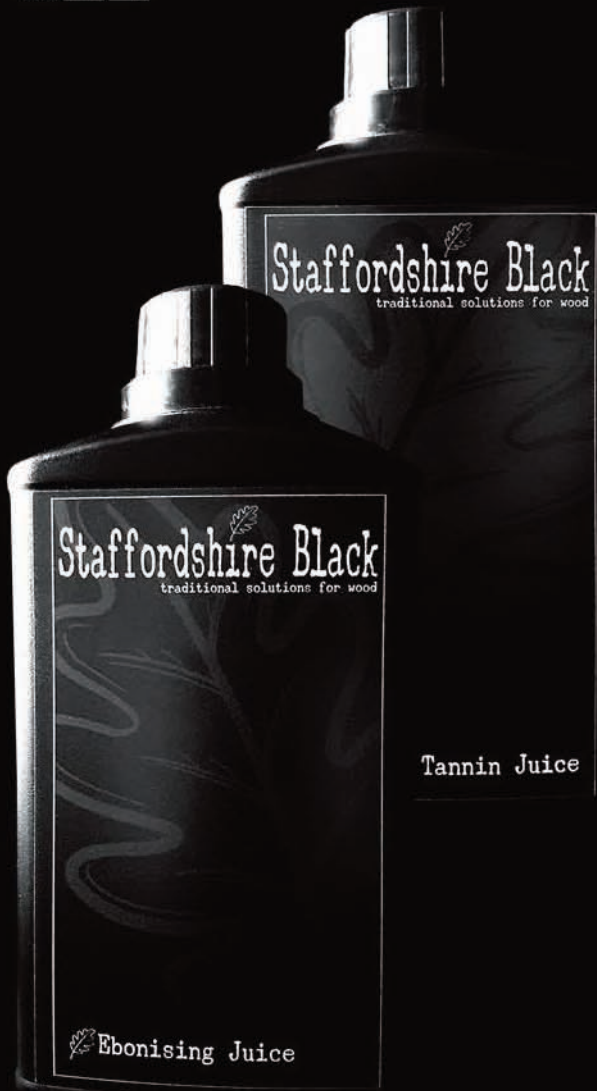
Renewal Reminder

If you havent renewed your membership this maybe the last edition of Revolutions you will receive.

If you are just renewing without changing your details or gift aid status, you don't need to complete the membership form again. All you need to do is send payment - either cheque with your membership number on the back; bank transfer with your surname and membership number as reference or you can renew via the AWGB website www.awgb.co.uk.

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(it's magic* in a bottle... or two)

* Magic doesn't actually exist and Harry Potter isn't real.

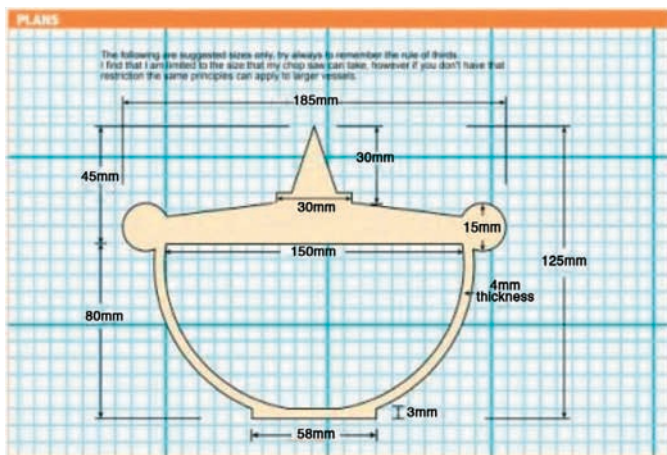
Staffordshire Black uses science to ebonise your wooden wonders straight from the bottle(s), turning your work deep black and giving it the kind of classiness you could only dream about until now. Splash on some Tannin Juice, slosh Ebonising Juice on top of that and prepare to be amazed as everything changes in front of your very eyes. Like magic, but not. Sorry, Harry :(

Decorative Lidded Bowl

David Ritchie



This project started off as a way to use offcuts and a way of learning to deal with the characteristics of different woods and later, inspired by the incredible work of Carlyn Lindsay, I attempted to marry the two. The main secret to segmenting different woods lies in their compatibility regarding hardness and moisture content. This particular project used spalted Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and inserts of Iroko (*Milicia excelsa*) and Mahogany (*Khaya ivorensis*) and a central ring of Laburnum (*Laburnum anagyroides*). The most important part of the turning/construction is the accuracy of the cuts.



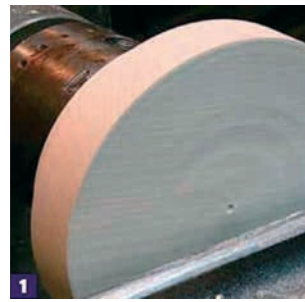
It was pointed out quite recently to me that if something is done by hand, i.e. carving etc., then the eye travels over the whole piece. However, if it's made using machine cuts, any errors will stick out like the proverbial 'sore thumb'. This means accurate marking out and building a jig to present the piece accurately and without movement to the radial or chop saw, is paramount.

Preparation

1 This particular piece was made from a large piece of Sycamore, which had spalted on one side, but was good on the top face. I find that while spalting makes for a decorative finish, it does not lend itself to fine cuts and inserts, so choose your wood with care. In this case, the spalted section forms the bowl and the solid wood, the lid and ring.

2 The next step is to mark one third for the lid of the box...

3 ...and proceed to shape the top approximately 180mm in diameter and 30mm thick.



4 This design is simple, use a protractor to mark every 20°

5 ...and draw 18 lines from edge-to-edge, ensuring they pass exactly through the centre. Dependent upon which design is used, you could of course use the lathe indexing system. Whatever you choose, make sure you are accurate.



Cutting grooves

6 As a radial arm – chop saw – is intended to be used to create the grooves, make a simple jig using 3/4 ply board with a hole drilled in from one edge; this will allow you to marry up with the centre of the blank and ensure it is the same size as the blank's spigot.



7 This enables the blank to be turned on its axis by hand, without moving out of line. Mark 19mm from the top and now proceed to cut each groove in turn, drawing the saw fully out then cutting down to the 19mm line mark.

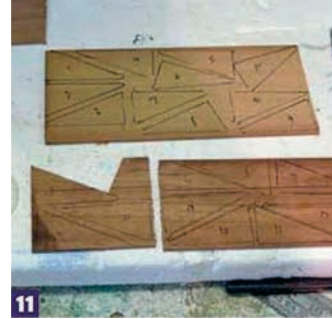
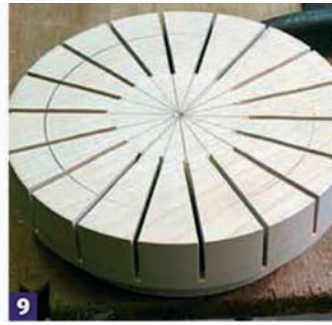
8 Because of the radius of the saw blade, this edge would be the deepest cut. Make all cuts and finish approximately the same distance in.

9 We are only interested in the first 50mm of each cut as the rest will be turned away later

"I always ensure I have a spare of each material before cutting out, in case of an 'oh dear' fit".

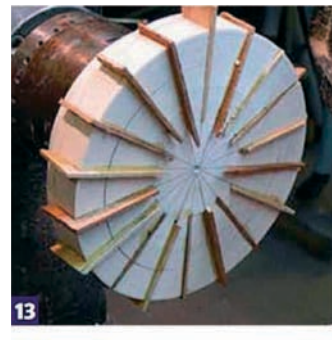
Inserts

10 Having selected the insert material – in this project Iroko and Mahogany were used to give alternative



colours around the rim – with the saw kerf being 2.5mm, material has to be oversized to ensure a very tight fit. Cut these on the bandsaw and reduce to the required thickness on the planer. You can, of course, cut them closer on the bandsaw then sand by hand, but whichever method you use the fit needs to be tight. Making and cutting the inserts is the easiest part: simply push your material firmly and fully home in a groove and mark round leaving 2-3mm spare for handling. Cut out 'one' on the bandsaw and check its fit. Using this as a template, scribe around it, marking out the rest on the insert material. Leave at least 24 hours drying time when using PVA glue and remove any excess glue with a damp cloth.

11 Apply a thin bead of PVA or any glue that dries clear to the groove and both faces of the insert...



12 ...push them fully home and leave to dry.

13 When completely dry, remount to the lathe.

14 Using a sharp 6mm bowl gouge, remove the excess until all inserts are flush with the surface.



Forming the ring

15 The profile of the decorated edge can now be decided. Gently shape and undercut the edge and form an inner edge – this particular shape is best described as a 'life belt'. It is important to undercut the inside of the ring to highlight the



inserts, prior to parting off.

16 Before sanding, ensure all joints are good – believe me, one poor joint will stick out and spoil the project. Once you are happy with your work, sand off to 600 grit and using a parting tool, cut in from under the rim...



17 ... just past the ring's width required – this can be measured by the difference between the internal and external diameters of the ring.

18 Finally, cut through from the inside ring edge to complete the parting off.



19 Use Cole jaws to remount the ring and clean up the underside. Create a raised tenon about 6mm in from the edge of the ring and about 4mm high – these measurements are only approximate as they will vary dependent upon the size of the bowl and ring, but must be enough to allow the ring to overlap the edge of the top of the bowl. Should a jam chuck be used, be aware not to create too much pressure from the centre. Remember, you are dealing with multiple pieces of wood and glue at this stage.

20 Clean up, remount the remaining top section and create a groove to receive the spigot from the ring. Measure this carefully because a sloppy fit in the groove is very difficult to correct and you could run out of wood. Reverse the piece and cut a 19mm recess, which will later receive the finial.

21 At this stage, shape the centre section of the lid and create a small spigot to allow it to be reversed. When you are happy with the fit between the centre section and the ring, glue into place and leave under pressure until completely dry. Reverse the piece, clean up the underside and create the recess for the bowl tenon leaving the underside slightly concave and finished to 600 grit.



22 Further decoration can now be applied to the centre of the lid according to your personal taste. On this piece, I chose to fit a laburnum ring in the centre. Use a parting tool to cut a groove approximately 6mm wide and 4mm deep. Create the ring from any coloured wood to provide a contrast and set off the piece. You must ensure a tight fit, glue and allow to dry under pressure.



23 Finally, turn the finial spigot to fit the recess you created in the lid, glue into place and dry under pressure before shaping. My finial was made using scraps from the insert material and glued to a piece of Sycamore.



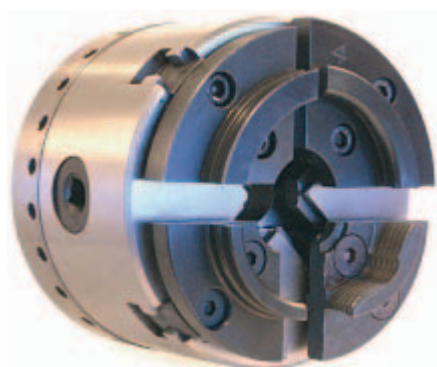
24 The turning of the bowl is fairly standard, but whatever shape you use try to apply the rule of 1-3, which is why we cut the top one-third off at the start. Clean up the face of the blank and cut a groove to accept the tenon from the lid. Check repeatedly to ensure a good fit – not too tight.

25 Shape the outside of the bowl so that the top edge fits under the ring, again checking frequently. Complete the outside shape creating a foot of approximately one-third of the bowl diameter.

26 Bearing in mind this piece was spalted, I chose not to turn the walls too thin and stopped at approximately 4mm. Sand up to 600 grit prior to finishing with oil.

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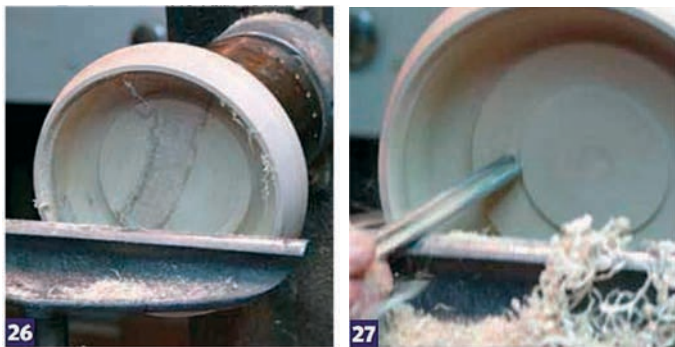


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But whereas all other chucks limit you to jaws from just that one make, the Versachuck accepts jaws from almost all mainstream manufacturers, including of course, our own.

Find it in its new home at www.beaufortink.co.uk





27 Use at least three coats, cutting back and allow to dry until you achieve your desired finish

28 The completed bowl should look something like this.



EQUIPMENT USED

6mm bowl gouge, 13mm bowl gouge, 25mm round scraper, 3mm parting tool, PVA glue, Dividers/callipers 180-600 grit abrasives, PPE: latex gloves, facemask, respirator/dust mask.

TIMBER REQUIREMENTS

Spalted Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) Iroko (*Milicia excelsa*) Mahogany (*Khaya ivorensis*) Laburnum (*Laburnum anagyroides*)

HANDY HINTS

1. You cannot give enough attention to clean cuts and well fitted pieces.
2. As mentioned at the beginning of this article, this article looks at using up spare pieces in a decorative manner and creating a delicate ring with inserts. I find this method is not just restricted to small bowls and lids but is also good practice in tool control.
3. Larger platters can be enhanced by using a ring made from different materials and at the other end of the scale, I have used much smaller rings as a foot to promote other turnings.
4. Step 19 shows the ring held from the inside on Cole jaws; this is under very little pressure as only a light touch was required. It is much safer to hold the piece from the outside where possible, especially when heavy cutting.

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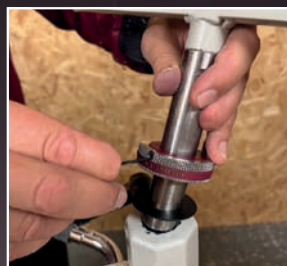
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TRAC

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Member Training Workshops

Simon Hope

Great Bromley, Essex

5th April 2023

intermediate
Thread Chasing

Les Thorne

Four Marks, Hampshire

15th April 2023

Beginner
Basic Bowl

Dennis Wake

Hartlepool Enterprise Centre, Durham

20th May 2023

intermediate
Table Lamp

Darren Crisp

Shaws Burn Woodturning Studio, ML9 3RG

21st May 2023

beg/intermediate
Improving Tool Techniques

Gary Rance

Wendover, Buckinghamshire

30th June 2023

intermediate
Box Making

Simon Hope

Great Bromley, Essex

5th July 2023

intermediate
Turning Spheres

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.



The Worshipful Company of Turners



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.



Key Dates

Monday 18th September

Entry forms must be received by the Assistant Clerk by close of business on Monday 18th September. If you submit your entry after this date, we cannot guarantee that your piece(s) will be entered into the competitions

Monday 2nd October

Items being delivered by post or courier should arrive at the Company offices in Saddlers' Hall, no later than 5pm on this date.

Please refer to General Conditions of entry 2023 for further details

Wednesday 18th October

All entries must be at Pewterers' Hall by noon. Please don't bring anything in person without having previously submitted an entry form before 18th September. No pieces will be entered into the

competitions without an entry form provided before 18th September.

Private View and Evening Reception (invitation only)



Thursday 19th October

10 am – 4.00 pm public view day and opportunity to buy

4.30 pm prize giving ceremony

Entries which have not been sold may be collected from Pewterers' Hall after the prize giving ceremony



Tabletop Spinning-Wheel

David Bryant

I first began making spinning-wheels in the mid-1970s, and in 1987 I wrote a book entitled 'Wheels and Looms'. Later in 1994 I made a 16 spindle Hargreaves spinning jenny based on the 1771 patent for Quarry Bank Mill (National Trust), and also hoop rim wheels for interpretation purposes. In 2007 I ventured into making great wheels with diameters from 26" to 42" with steam bent rims. In between over the years I have also restored many spinning-wheels, and in 2010 I was asked to restore a tabletop wheel by the York maker John Jameson 1780-1802 (photo 1).



1. John Jameson tabletop spinning-wheel

This had an unusual elliptic base, and I took the opportunity to take a few key measurements, thinking I might try making one sometime. I then developed a design of my own on AutoCAD, but with a rectangular base, like other Jameson tabletop wheels my wife Valerie and I have recorded. In between I started to turn some spindle work for this, and when Covid 19 came and we could not socialise I decided to finish it.

The tabletop wheel is made of Walnut and comprises a horizontal framework mounted on four pillars fixed to a rectangular base (photo 2). The wheel above is mounted on



2. Table top spinning wheel (rectangular base)

two vertical posts, and turned by a small handle. On the left is the bobbin/flyer mechanism, which connects to the wheel with a double band drive cord. The bobbin/flyer mechanism is mounted on leather bearings set into two 'maidens', which fit into a spindle below known as the 'mother-of-all', which

slides along the ends of the horizontal framework. A wood screw arrangement adjusts the bobbin/flyer to tighten the drive cord, the latter being a single double loop with a cross in it (photo 3). A screwbox and tap was used to cut the screw thread. I used an old Sargent 1/2" screwbox for this, as the more modern ones available I find have a finer screw pitch, and would not I thought look right on this project.



3. Bobbin/flyer mechanism

A feature of Jameson wheels is the barrel shaped detail on the horizontal spindles which I think works well. The design is very detailed, and I had to work to accurate measurements to ensure all the parts fitted together correctly. The rims on Jameson wheels were made of lead, which is needed to give it the necessary momentum, which a small wheel does not have. This was a difficult material for me to work with, and instead I decided to have a brass rim. The wheel rim was 203mm (8") diameter, but my Myford ML7 engineering lathe can only do 178mm (7"). Fortunately a very good friend of mine was able to get it machined for me on a CNC machine. With the spokes and hub assembly fitted tightly into the brass rim, an alignment check with a dial gauge was done to eliminate sideways wobble. The rim was drilled with 2mm holes into the spoke ends. Brass pins were set through the rim into each spoke, with a drop of superglue to secure them (photo 4).



4. Drilling rim holes

Come and watch

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We also have full day demos on Sunday 21 May 2023 (Colwin Way) and 22 October 2023
(Jason Breach). If interested email secretary as above.

Certificate in Woodturning training course

contact Dennis at dw1982wake@virginmedia.com or 07707 700338 to book

Venue	Unit 43, Hartlepool Enterprise Centre Hartlepool TS24 8EY	
Tutor	Dennis Wake	
Dates	13, 14th May 2023	24, 25th June 2023
	15, 16th July 2023	12, 13th August 2023

**Association of
Woodturners**
of Great Britain



Dont forget...

We have the members only area on the website for all individual, associated and affiliated club members. The single password for all is **#Fr4xinus#**.

Keep this somewhere safe if you plan to use the members only area on the website!
Please don't share the password with anyone else.

The table is of high grade ply with Walnut veneer on top and edging round the sides. It is some years since I have done any veneer work, and I decided to fit an elliptic fan shaded motif in the middle with a Sycamore string round the perimeter. Fitting the fan motif required some precision, and I carried out a couple of trial runs on some spare veneer first (photo 5). Finally with the motif secured in place with masking tape, I glued the veneer matrix to the table. A useful book press ensured the veneer work was laid flat, and the whole assembly was finished with French polish.



5. Fan shaded oval veneer motif

This little wheel is for spinning flax, which requires a distaff on which to dress the fibre. The distaff here is of the birdcage pattern. To bend the birdcage to shape the cane work was soaked in water, pinned round a pattern stuck to a board and left to dry (photo 6). Some Jameson wheels had wire distaffs, but cane I think looks better. The distaff and water pot spindle work were secured to the table with thumb screws, again using the 1/2" screwbox and tap to create the threads (photo 7).



6. Cane distaff

To spin flax the fibres have to be moistened by the spinner, and for this the water pot is used. I have used lead to line water pots in the past, but will most likely line this one with a lighter material impervious to water. The spinner draws the



7. Tabletop spinning-wheel with distaff and water pot



8. Tabletop spinning-wheel with distaff dressed with flax

fibre into the flyer orifice with the left hand and the right hand turns the wheel (photo 8). The way it works is that the flyer puts the twist into the fibre, which is then collected onto the bobbin. The flyer is driven by the pulley whorl, which screws onto the axle at the back with a left handed thread, and the bobbin is loose in between. To enable the spun thread to be collected onto the bobbin, the latter has to run faster or slower than the flyer. On this wheel the bobbin runs faster, and so it has a smaller groove than the pulley wheel, where the drive cord fits. The colours of the ribbons dressed round the flax were traditionally blue or green if you were a married lady, or if you were single pink or white.

The tables of Jameson spinning-wheels had lead weights fitted into holes drilled in the underside to stop the wheel



8. Thumb screw detail

from slipping about. Instead I decided to apply green felt to the underneath, and when it is required to use the wheel to spin fibre, place it on some non slip rubber matting, which works very well. Valerie has been testing the wheel spinning flax, and demonstrated it to the North Cheshire Guild of Spinners and Weavers at their last meeting in 2022. I have had a special label made with my name on it as an example of my work (photo 9).



9. Nameplate

Note from the editor

Thanks to everybody who has contributed to this newsletter over the last few years.

Remember I can only publish what I am supplied - this is your newsletter!

I love to receive all your ramblings and tales, stories and tips, jokes and yarns.

Are you working on a project you can write about - how you are doing it?

Don't forget to include photographs, maybe some illustrations and any supporting materials if applicable.

This is **your** newsletter and I need your contributions please.

We pay for your "How to" and "turning tips" articles.

Send to: editor@awgb.co.uk
or my address is on page 3.

Happy Turning

sheila



CHESTNUT P R O D U C T S FINISHING SCHOOL

Buffing Wheel Kit



1 The Buffing Wheel Kit contains everything you need to get started with buffing your work to a deep, lasting shine. It's not only a great shortcut to a great finish on new work, it's also perfect for refurbishing older items in need of some TLC - without having to worry about remounting them.

2 Made in the UK and zinc plated for protection, the Large Mandrel fits any chuck on either the 18 or 25mm section. No need for a draw bar or live centre to hold it in place.

3 The Kit comes complete with three 8 inch wheels, each of a different cloth grade to help prepare and then polish your work to perfection. The wheels come ready assembled to quickly screw into the mandrel.

4 The first two wheels use a special compound to help cut the surface back to make it extra smooth and the third wheel works with Carnuaba Wax to give a protective shine.

5 Also included in the kit is a smaller mandrel for a Jacobs chuck, to allow the system to be used in a pillar or power drill.

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