



## Forthcoming events

### Club Meetings

*June 3<sup>rd</sup>*

**Vance Lupton**  
Manta ray bowl

*July 1<sup>st</sup>*

**David Lowe**  
Zipped vase

### Club Competitions

*June*

*Novice:*  
Pendant

*July*

*Challenge:*  
Turned Book-ends

### Other Events

**11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> June**

**Toolpost Open Days**  
The ToolPost,  
Southmead Industrial Park,  
Didcot, Oxfordshire,  
OX11 7HR

**18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> June**

**UK & Ireland Woodturning  
Symposium**  
Hilton Hotel,  
Coventry, CV2 2ST

<http://www.ukiws.co.uk/>

## Chairmans Notes

Our Hands-on Evening attracted a reasonable number of members, but there was room for more. Just as importantly, there were visitors who were intent on returning and joining the club. They will be most welcome.

I will not steal the Editor's thunder by describing the evening's activities in detail. A memo to myself. When one has practiced a demonstration at home with success, do not change anything before repeating it in public. This includes using precisely the same reel of double-sided tape. There are definitely some brands with a greater degree of adhesion than others. Pendant blanks that had remained on the lathe at home persisted in flying off at the most inconvenient moments.

Your committee met this month. Most of the business was routine but we did decide to apply for a stand at the Kings Bromley Show on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July. If we are successful, then we will need the support of members in staffing the stand and demonstration. Please put the date in your diary now.

We are also investigating the possibility of a stand at the Lichfield Festival Market on 2<sup>nd</sup> July but there are both logistic and cost issues to consider. We will keep you informed.

Our congratulations are due to Vance Lupton, our Treasurer, who has had one of his pieces selected for inclusion in the AWGB Travelling Exhibition. So there is even more reason to give my apologies for my non-attendance at the next Club meeting. Much as I would like to see Vance's demonstration and I have every confidence that it will be an excellent one, the possibility of completing a circumnavigation of the mainland of the U.K. by tall ship has proved the more alluring.

**Philip Watts**



## Editors Scribblings

I've not been doing much woodturning lately! What I have been doing is a fairly major re-organisation of my workshop, which is really quite small! It's a single garage, and no doubt some of you might say that it is bigger than the area that they have to work in; but I don't have an "overflow area" and it is very full!

Not only does it house my woodturning/woodworking equipment it also has to accommodate my metal turning lathe and attachments and other metal working equipment, as well as my wood store, the inevitable decorating equipment, pressure washer, step ladders, portable power tools, etc.; not to mention many boxes of screws, nuts & bolts, and a myriad of other things that will no doubt come in useful at some time! The most major change has been to replace a large base cupboard with a unit having deep and shallow drawers with telescopic runners to provide maximum accessibility; and to replace various sizes of storage box with more standardised sizes to maximise use of shelf space. Other open low shelf areas have been converted into cupboards with adjustable shelves. What a transformation! Things that were inaccessible at the back of the cupboard are now easily found in drawers, and items that previously had to live on the floor are now safely stored away, but still easily accessible. It's not been a cheap exercise (even using IKEA as a source!) but it will make things more manageable.

On a different theme, my wife and I went down to the RHS Spring Festival at Malvern on the Saturday following the Hands on evening. Even there I couldn't escape from woodturning as there were three stands in the one hall; Paul Hannaby (AWGB Webmaster and Data Manager) and his artist/ceramicist wife Jeannette (from the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire) had a very large area, Kim Davis (from Kington, Herefordshire) had a smaller stand, as did Ken Gilbert (from Ludlow, Shropshire) who specialises in "shaker" style boxes and also, largely ornamental lathe, turned boxes. It was refreshing to see woodturned items holding their own alongside ceramics and other media.



*Paul Hannaby's stand (above and left).*



*Some of Jeannette Hannaby's enamelled (glass on metal) wall plaques (left) and Kim Davis's stand (right).*





Ken Gilberts stand and some of his ornamental turned boxes.

The portable appliance testing of our equipment, and that bought in by members for the evening, went well with everything passing first time!

I have spent some time working on the camera system since the April meeting. One of the cables had been damaged resulting in an intermittent fault so this has been repaired (and a spare one procured) and changes made to the console to make connection and disconnection easier and strain relief's have been incorporated at the camera end. Also a monitor has been added so the images from both cameras can be seen by the operator all the time, and adjustments can be made to the camera not connected to the projector can be made ready for selection. Hopefully this will avoid the situation when we unintentionally switch to a view of top of the demonstrators head, which has happened from time to time!

We do need more volunteers to set up and operate the system. It looks complicated at first but after a little practice it is straightforward. Anyone interested is welcome to have a go during the tea break at any meeting. There is a comprehensive set of instructions available on request from [editor@mswa.co.uk](mailto:editor@mswa.co.uk)

I hope you enjoy this "bumper" 12 page issue of Wood 'n' things, comments and contributions always welcome!

## Hugh Field



Early attempts at the table saw.



Early attempts at the Circular Saw.



## May Competition

A total of six entries for the Challenge was encouraging, but unfortunately no entries from the “novices”. Hopefully you all realise that the Challenge competition is open to all, even if you are a “novice”. This months challenge was for a long stemmed goblet, minimum 12” high. Your Editor went for height, rather than style, and achieved 3<sup>rd</sup> place with a specimen just under 27 ½” (695mm) tall! Clearly style and quality counted more than size in the eyes of the voters with Vance Lupton winning with his ribbon twist stemmed entry and Ted Gill coming second with his elegant natural edge one. Other entries were from Jane Russell, John McElroy and Philip Watts.



*From left to right, entries by Jane Russell, Ted Gill (2<sup>nd</sup>), Philip Watts, Hugh Field (3<sup>rd</sup>), Vance Lupton (1<sup>st</sup>) and John McElroy. (Photograph courtesy of Philip Watts).*

On a different note, at present we only have two contenders in the Novice competition, Phil Williams and Graham Massey having each won once. For clarification for competition purposes, if you haven't yet won the Novice trophy (or come first in 3 or more months of the Novice competition in a year) then you are still, technically, a “novice”, no matter for how many years you've been turning! So let's see more entries in both the Challenge and Novice series in future, please!

## Hands-on evening

As mentioned by our Chairman, this was better attended than the one held last October, with 18 members and 3 visitors; but we still need more members (and visitors) to come to this type of meeting to generate funds. The Committee feels that perhaps more needs to be done to increase the appeal of these meetings and your feedback would be useful in this respect.

Sales of donated wood seemed to go well with Jane Russell in charge, raising another £38 for club funds. Overall, the revenue pretty well covered the cost of the Portable Appliance Testing and the Village Hall rental and refreshments.





We had four lathes in operation. Ted Gill was using the club lathe to turn items from wet wood (see his triple goblet form on page 7) and using a microwave oven for a type of steam bending/shaping process. Unfortunately a fault in the wood caused this to fail during the turning of the goblet, so the remaining material was used to turn a mushroom; sadly this split during bending!

Dawn Hopley brought her lathe and demonstrated how to make jewellery items, Philip Watts was demonstrating his home made jig for offset turning pendants (when his double sided tape allowed!), and Vance was demonstrating the use of his Simon Hope hollowing attachment (with laser), again on his own lathe.

All these mini demonstrations generated a lot of interest. I had set up the camera system, this being the first opportunity to try out the system after the recent alterations including adding a monitor to the console. Several members took the opportunity to "have a play". Jane Russell did a sterling job on the wood sales, and there was a good deal of chatting going on during the evening!



*Dawn practising on the camera console (left).... and (right) making jewellery on her lathe, watched by Phil Williams.*



*Some of Dawns jewellery (right).*



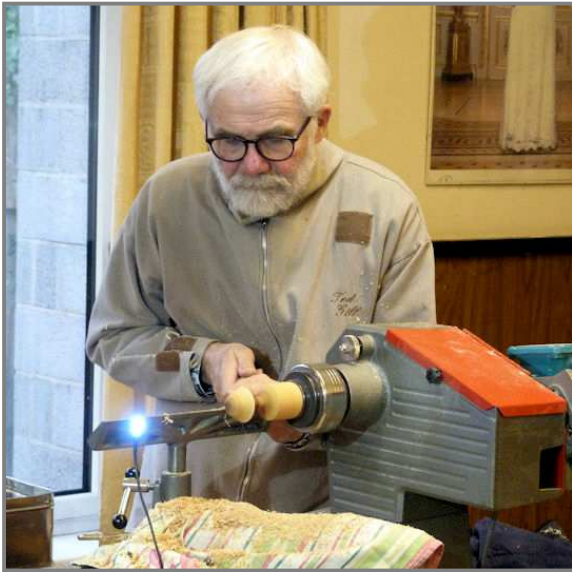
*Our Chairman, Philip Watts demonstrating his offset turning Jig (left), watched by new member John Mears and visiting couple, the Pritchard's*



*The jig in close up (left) and some results (below).*







Ted Gill at work (left).



Geoff Payne, and Vance with his Simon Hope hollowing attachment (above, left and below left).



Paul Bellamy (ex member!) in conversation with John Hulse, Ken Allen and Brian Shaw (photo courtesy of Jane Russell).



I failed to get sufficient, good quality photographs for this months issue. So thank you to Jane and Philip for your contributions.

Hugh Field





**Display table**

Ted Gill and Ron Dixon provided a range of items for the display table.



*Ron found that turning spalted birch doesn't always go according to plan (left) but that by using wood hardener some spectacular results can be obtained (below).*



*Closer views of some of Ted's work (left and right).*







TurnFest 2016 - Australia ~ visit by Geoff Payne



On the 18-20th March I attended "Turnfest" ( [www.turnfest.com.au](http://www.turnfest.com.au) ), the main Australian wood turning event held at the Gold Coast (not far from Brisbane). The event was organised by David Drescher, a very enterprising, hard working, and friendly individual. ( [www.woodworkingsuppliesqld.com.au](http://www.woodworkingsuppliesqld.com.au) )

The demonstrators he had lined up were::

Richard Raffan, Guilio Marcolongo, Mike Lee, Cynthia Carden-Gibson, Tom Wirsing, John Wessels, John Jordon, Chris Pytlik, Vaughn Richmond, and Neil & Liz Scobie.

It appeared that Neil Scobie had just been diagnosed with severe cancer and had had to cancel.

The demos were 1½ hours in length and went on to 9.30 pm. A drawback was that once in the lecture room you had to stay which meant that it was almost impossible to see all the demonstrators.





Of interest:-

## Chris Pytlic

Specialist in dye staining and finishing vases and bowls. Usual thickness about 1/4 in. His preference in wood was of close grain soft woods (including Lombardy Poplar!). He liked to bleach his wood first by brushing on hydrogen peroxide. He used spirit stain (in the powder form), well thinned with acetone. He then used a pipette (cheap plastic) to squirt the dye into the finished vase taking care with grain direction to enable bleeding through the end grain to the outside (colour used usually Royal Blue). More dye was then poured in and rolled around with the surplus tipped out.

Concentrated dye was then applied around the neck and allowed to flow down the sides into the areas where the inner dye hadn't bled into. After drying he applied sanding sealer and thereafter 6 coats of lacquer (no more than 3 per day to allow for the evaporation of any air pockets). After 2 weeks of curing the article was buffed.

The results could be quite stunning.

## Guilio Marcolonga

Despite his name, a true Ozzie, and very entertaining. One of his specialities being an off centre pepper mill.

Of main interest was his use of super glue for finishing. After sanding, very thin glue was applied quickly and evenly with a rag, cutting back and applying a further coat before using a friction polish known as "Glow". The shine achieved is incredible (how long the finish will last though is anybody's guess, as using super glue for polishing is a relatively recent innovation. Widely used for finishing pens though).

## Tom Wirsing

Tom showed us how to turn "perfect" platters and bowls that barely needed sanding.

He made expert use of heavy scrapers. These were 1/4 in. thick and had a negative rake. The main point he made was that they had to have a good burr at all times, so had to be continually sharpened. The burr being the secret.

Other tips – Drill a small hole to the correct depth of the platter or bowl and use a broad square scraper to finish the centre. Wrap kitchen towel around your hand to hold rim to prevent vibration, at the same time tuck the scraper under the arm to steady.

## **Geoff Payne**



## Turning tips

This section is for any tips or advice you would like to pass on to other members. If you have discovered something you found useful, that you think may benefit others, please pass it on.

++++++

These are not my tips, but ones given at demonstrations:-

+++++

Wipe or brush the dust off the work between grits. Sanding leaves not only wood dust but particles of abrasive which break off from the backing. It only needs one of these particles to cause a scratch later when using a finer abrasive (*from Richard Findley*).

+++++

If you want to put holes through a turned item, then consider drilling them *before* finish turning, this will avoid break through problems (*from Dawn Hopley*).

+++++

## Items for sale or wanted

If you have any woodturning/woodworking items for sale, or if you are trying to find something, send me the details and I will put it in the next issue.

Items will be advertised for 3 issues unless otherwise requested.

Items can also be brought to club evenings when donated to raise money for club funds. Please advise the Treasurer if you wish to do this.

## For Sale

Record Power cam lock tool-rest banjo for CL lathe twin bar lathe. Little used. I believe this is no longer available as an upgrade kit, possibly only as spare parts. £15



**Hugh Field** Tel: 0121 329 2911, see me at a Club meeting, or email at: [editor@mswa.co.uk](mailto:editor@mswa.co.uk)

## Custom Toolrests – David Fields

David is an ex member of MSWA and his grandson is able to make tool-rests, similar to the Robert Sorby system, out of round steel bar. These can be tailored to suit your requirements i.e. tool-post stem and length of the actual tool-rest. At the moment he is only doing straight tool-rests but bowl rests may be feasible in the future.

And if you have a Record lathe and do small spindles, he has developed a cranked tool-post, allowing the tool-rest to get close to the work, without the banjo dropping off the front bed bar. If you would like to see one, or want to discuss your requirements, please have a chat with David on 01283 229072.

## Carnauba wax polishes – Paul Bellamy

Following the favourable reaction to the polishing kits Paul started earlier this year, he has established a supply of carnauba wax flakes. These can be used to make your own 'sticks' or mixed with other components to make a range of polishes. He is selling these in 250g bags but could do larger quantities if you need it. He also has some ready-made wax blocks, comprising 60% beeswax / 40% carnauba. These are softer than most 'wood-turning sticks' but he prefers this as it doesn't score your work.

He also has more of his 'Buffing kits', similar to Chestnut's system. For more details, e-mail him at [paul@pnbellamy.co.uk](mailto:paul@pnbellamy.co.uk)

*[David and Paul are members of Derwent Woodturning Club, as am I, so I could act as "go between" on these if required - Hugh Field]*





## Merchandise



### Abrasives and other items

#### Mirka Abranet 70 x 125mm Sheets:

5 x Mixed Grit Pack (120, 180, 240, 400 and 500) = £2.00 per pack

#### Mirka Abranet 50mm Sanding Discs:

7 x Mixed Grit pack (80, 120, 180, 240, 320, 400, 600) = £1.50 per pack

#### Rhinogrip 50mm Sanding Discs:

7 x Mixed Grit pack (80, 120, 180, 240, 320, 400, 600) = £0.90 per pack

#### Flexipad Sanding Pads (for above discs):

50mm Velcro Conical Spindle Pad with 6mm shaft = £8.82 each

#### J-Flex Sanding Paper:

5 x 1m lengths mixed grits 120, 180, 240, 320 & 400 = £9.50 per pack

#### Screwdrivers:

Various sizes donated to club = £1 each

#### BondFix Superglue:

50g Bottle of Medium Viscosity = £3 per bottle

#### Donated Items:

Various Books and Magazines = 50p to £2 each



#### DVDs

The list of DVDs available for loan is on the next page.

If any members have DVDs which are not on the list, but which they would like to donate to the Club, they would be most welcome.



### Club information

Your club committee for 2016 is:-

#### **Chairman - Philip Watts**

Email: [chairman@mswa.co.uk](mailto:chairman@mswa.co.uk)

Tel. 0121 308 7838

#### **Secretary – John McElroy**

Email: [secretary@mswa.co.uk](mailto:secretary@mswa.co.uk)

#### **Treasurer – Vance Lupton**

Email: [treasurer@mswa.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@mswa.co.uk)

#### **Events Secretary – Ted Gill**

Email: [events@mswa.co.uk](mailto:events@mswa.co.uk)

#### **Newsletter editor – Hugh Field**

Email: [editor@mswa.co.uk](mailto:editor@mswa.co.uk)

Tel: 0121 329 2911

#### **Webmanager – Hugh Field**

Email: [webman@mswa.co.uk](mailto:webman@mswa.co.uk)

#### **Health and Safety Advisor - Hugh Field**

Email: [health.safety@mswa.co.uk](mailto:health.safety@mswa.co.uk)

#### **Dawn Hopley**

Please only use phone numbers if absolutely necessary



## DVDs

The club has a selection of Woodturning DVD's that are available for registered club members use only. You can borrow them for just £2 per month (some are free)!

Current List of DVD's available:

Club Ref.	Description		Cost per month
MSD1	AWGB Instant Gallery 1991 to 2003		Free
MSD2	Sharpening Woodturning & Carving Tools	The Guild of Master Craftsmen	£2
MSD3	Turning Projects with Richard Raffan	Selecting wood and various projects	£2
MSD4	Turning Wood with Alan Holthm	Project No.3 A Table Lamp	£2
MSD5	Colouring Wood with Jan Sanders	The secrets behind various wood finishes inc. liming and gilding	£2
MSD6	The Trent Bosch 3 disc collection	Vessels of Illusion, Decorative Bowls & Sculpting Wood	£2
MSD7	Bowls for Beginners with Ray Jones		£2
MSD8	Missing DVD	Last borrowed by Pete Harland	
MSD9	Making & Decorating Platters	Mick Hanbury DVD	£2
MSD10	Making & Decorating Boxes	Mick Hanbury DVD	£2
MSD11	Jimmy Clews "Turn it On" vol. 1	A footless bowl, and oriental style box and tool sharpening	£2
MSD12	Jimmy Clews "Turn it On" vol. 2	A Ziracote Bowl with Brass Inlay, A long stem Goblet and preparing a fallen tree for turning	£2
MSD13	Jimmy Clews "Turn it On" vol. 3	A Lidded Box, Footless Bowl with Silver Highlights with ~The use of CAD to design projects	£2
MSD14	All Glued Up with Sue Harker	A study in Open Segmented turning	£2
MSD15	Turned Out Nice Again with Sue Harker	A study in Involute Turning	£2
MSD16	Missing DVD	Last borrowed by Pete Harland	£2
MSD17	Woodcut Turning Tools promotional DVD	The Woodcut Bowlsaver and Pro-Forme hollowing tool	Free
MSD18	Missing DVD	Last borrowed by Pete Harland	
MSD19	Inlaid & Novelty Boxes with Chris Stott	Box making and decorating techniques	£2
MSD20	An Introduction to Fine Woodturning with Simon Hope	"Hope For Us All" vol.1 with Simon Hope	£2
MSD21	A Burr Hollow Form with Pewter Finial	"Hope For Us All" vol.2 with Simon Hope	£2
MSD22	Wet Turning with a Difference with Stuart Mortimer	Wet wood turning with a difference!	£2
MSD23	The AWGB Seminar 2011	Images and Gallery from the 2011 convention	Free
MSD24	Turning Green Wood with Mick O'Donnell	Thin wall turning of green of fresh timber. DVD also includes Tool Sharpening techniques	£2
MSD25	Missing DVD	Last borrowed by Anne Hopkinson	£2
MSD26	Turning a Half Sized Hat with Andrew Hall	Live demonstration of hat turning	£2
MSD27	Turning a Small Corinthian Helmy and Stand with Andrew Hall	Another live demonstration by "The Hat Man".	£2

Dawn Hopley has taken over the responsibility for these items and may be seen at Club Meetings