



## Programme

### Chairman's Notes

### Future Events

#### MSWA Meetings

August 7th

Steve White

Back by popular request  
Carving on a turned vessel

September 4<sup>th</sup>

Ted Gill

Stylised Figure Theme

#### Other Events

July 18th  
Alrewas Show

July 25th  
Kings Bromley

#### Club Competitions

August  
Novice  
Whistle or Flute

September  
Challenge  
Hollow Vessel  
with decorated  
rim or lid

It has been the custom in the club to have a stand and to demonstrate at two local shows, namely Alrewas and Kings Bromley. We have decided to give both shows the miss this year.

Why? In other newsletters, I have outlined the reasons why we have attended the shows for so long. There were two reasons. Firstly to try and increase the club membership and, secondly, to make some money for the club funds.

Reviewing the situation, your committee came to the conclusion that we could not identify any increase in club membership due to our attendance and that the financial return last year had been so low that we would have made more money if the club members actually supporting and helping on the stand had merely donated their fuel money to the club and stayed at home.

The return from Kings Bromley was exceptionally low. The day was extremely hot and nobody was in the mood to buy anything other than cold drinks and ice cream but also there were at least two or three other stands at the show selling turned wood products. In addition, the majority of the committee who, with the exception of two or three other stalwarts, are the people who actually attend on these occasions will not be available this year due to a combination of family and holiday matters.

We will continue to attend the Wildlife Trust Christmas Craft Fayre and will review our decision next year.

Philip Watts



## **Editor's Scribblings**

Paul Bellamy restarted the Club Newsletter in 2006. I checked because Steve Heeley who was our demonstrator at this month's meeting claimed to have first demonstrated at the MSWA ten years ago, which means 2005. His demonstration at that time was the same project that he showed this time. No criticism intended there because there has been a change of membership over that period of time and his choice of project is an excellent one covering a wide range of techniques.

Dawn revealed her age, or rather her length of membership by revealing that she could remember the project and had always intended to replicate it in her workshop, but had never got round to it. Perhaps this year!

I went looking in the hope that I could find Paul's report of that demonstration and that I could merely repeat it with a bit of fine tuning in the hope that nobody would notice. Alas, no! I found a report in the March 2006 issue where Steve Heeley demonstrated the turning of a lamp stand.

For the record, Paul edited (which meant that he also wrote the majority of the material) the newsletter from 2006 until I took over in January 2011, this was after I had also rebuilt the club website earlier in 2010. There is a non too subtle hint there. There is a need for fresh blood in both of these areas.

Philip Watts

The following is a note from Will Rose That he thought might be of use to members.

“Whilst visiting Amerton Farm on Sunday I got talking to Jamie the potter at Amerton Pottery 01889 270821 [www.amertonpottery.co.uk](http://www.amertonpottery.co.uk). I was admiring his pierced vases, lamps etc. and was reminded of a lady who used to live in Lichfield who made pierced ceramic potpourri lids in her kitchen. Craft Supplies used to sell them. I bought a number from her to use as lids on turned bowls. Unfortunately she is long gone.

Jamie makes a similar item as a pierced lid for lamps. He is willing to sell just the lids to bespoke designs and colour. He has a number in a box not wanted by a wood turner who used to be at Amerton farm. Price £3 to £4 each. “

## **An updated Tip**

An old wood turning book that I was reading contained the tip of turning thin pieces of wood by trapping them between a faceplate and the tailstock centre, thus avoiding having screw holes in the blank. The book cheerfully commented that if the wood slipped the turner “would not be in the firing line, and all you might lose would be a window”. It was suggested that a piece of “garnet” paper between the blank and the faceplate would assist.

I have used this technique successfully but would suggest that the use of double sided tape would be a better alternative as an intermediate layer.

## **Newsletter**

The Newsletter is for your and the club's benefit. If you have something to say then write it down and send it to me for inclusion. I can accept text in almost any format, although simple text files are the best. Similarly, I can accept photographs in both hard and soft copy, in many formats.



# Wood 'n' things



## A note from our Treasurer

As one would expect, our Treasurer keeps a careful eye on a number of items, particularly those affecting club finances. The following are his most recent observations

### Membership and attendance:

- Membership currently stands at 37 fully paid up members.
- Attendance on Friday was 23, which is 62% of the membership.
- Overall, attendance to date for all meetings from January is 66.3% of the membership.

### Meeting fees

- AWGB/MSWA members pay £5 per meeting except for 'Hands on' events when the fee is £3. (There is no £10 lottery at 'Hands On' events.)
- Visitors fees: No charge for the first meeting, £5 for the second meeting and at the third meeting visitors must become a MSWA club and AWGB member at the relevant fee.

### Membership fees.

- Current yearly membership is £30 for joint membership of the AWGB and MSWA. (Rates for families and young members are available on request)
- Half year rates apply from July 1st for new members.

## My lathe isn't big enough!

Have you ever used that excuse!

Users of Record lathes will remember that their predecessors were from Coronet. Here is an example of what could be done with a relatively small lathe, albeit with some modification as the caption suggests.



This picture came from the book "The Practical Wood Turner" by F Pain. First published in 1957 and reprinted in 1962, this has to be out of copyright by now which is why I feel it safe to reproduce it here.



# Wood 'n' things



## July Demonstration – Steve Heeley

Steve Heeley has been a regular visitor to the MSA since 2005. In discussion with Ted Gill, our Events Secretary, Steve had initially promised to provide a demonstration that had not been seen before at the club. Having determined that there were many new faces in the audience, he changed his mind and repeated the demonstration that he first gave in 2005. Not a problem as it is a project that involves a wide range of techniques and in particular allowed Steve to give a mini Master Class in spindle turning, an area often ignored by many turners.

His project was a flower pot stand. This comprised three parts, a base, a column, and a top. The upper and lower components are examples of cross grain turning whilst the central column is a between centres or spindle turning. Whilst Steve worked through the project in a sequence, base, spindle, and finally top, I will simplify my description by treating the base and top together. The preparation of these two components starts with a blank, tulip wood in this case, mounted on a screw chuck. This allowed Steve to round up the blank, face off one side and prepare a recess in the centre. In the case of the base this recess will end up in the bottom face and will therefore be visible. Steve turned a hemispherical button in the centre as an ornamental feature. Having sanded, sealed and finished this side, the blank could be reversed onto the chuck jaws. This allowed the opposite face to be shaped. The top was taken to its final shape and sealed and finished but the base was left in an unfinished state as Steve prefers to perform the final shaping with the central spindle in position, allowing the curves and adjacent fillets to be matched to each other.



Now to the spindle with a square sectioned blank of contrasting wood mounted between centres. Steve took the opportunity before it was taken to the round with a small roughing gouge to demonstrate the technique for turning the pommel block that is a common feature at the top of table and chair legs. The use of the long point of the skew featured here. The ends of the blank were then turned square and a tenon formed at what would be the lower end of the column. The fit here should not be a tight fit but should allow the glue to spread throughout the joint. Small nicks at the base and mid-points of the tenon also assist in making a strong joint.

Starting from the top, Steve then began to form the shape of the column combining coves, fillets and beads in sequence with a classical onion shaped bulb at the lower end. The clean cutting of each component and its relationship to the adjacent one were emphasised. Finally the shape of the base was completed with a clean fillet at the base of the column and with care taken to ensure that the ogee formed on the base ran all the way to the column without any flat spots.



# Wood 'n' things



As each component was completed, Steve sanded them working through the grits from 120 up to 320 before applying a cellulose sealer thinned to 50%. A tip from him to deal with cross grain patches was to dampen them to raise the grain before cutting back with a fresh piece of abrasive. A final clean with 0000 grade wire wool or a synthetic equivalent permitted a coat of a paste wax.



Final assembly and gluing up of the stand would have taken place in the lathe using the tailstock to provide the direct pressure along the centreline of the work.

A deceptively simple project but one that allowed Steve to give a master class in spindle turning.

Some of Steve's work including this large section from a four-poster bed under construction.





# Wood 'n' things



## July Competition – Challenge Cup

This challenge called for a finial box. Five members responded and their entries are shown in the pictures below.

The results were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Vance Lupton – Entry D
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ted Gill – Entry B
- 3<sup>rd</sup> John McElroy – Entry C
- 4<sup>th</sup> Jane Russell – Entry A
- 5<sup>th</sup> Philip Watts – Entry E





# Wood 'n' things



## Club information

Your club committee for 2015 is:-

**Chairman - Philip Watts**

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

Tel. 0121 308 7838

**Secretary – Dawn Hopley**

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

**Treasurer – Vance Lupton**

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

**Assistant Treasurer – Hugh Field**

**Events Secretary – Ted Gill**

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

**Abrasives -**

**Newsletter editor – Philip Watts**

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

**Webmanager – Philip Watts**

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

**Committee Members**

**Health and Safety Advisor**

Hugh Field

Please only use phone numbers if absolutely necessary.

## Merchandise



### Abrasives

If you need that finishing touch, the club has packs of Abranet, recommended by demonstrators and other club members, at £1.40 for a set of 5 sheets-120 -400 grit.



**Books and DVDs** The club has the following DVDs amongst others for hire.

### MSWA DVD List

- 1 AWGB Instant Gallery 1991-2003
- 2 Sharpening GMC
- 3 Turning Projects with Richard Raffan
- 4 Turning Wood with Alan Holtham – Table lamp
- 5 Colouring wood – Jan Sanders
- 6 3 Disc collection – Trent Bosch
- 7 Bowls for Beginners – Ray Jones
- 8 Course on Spindle Turning – Ray Jones
- 9 Making and Decorating Platters – Mick Hanbury
- 10 Making and Decorating Boxes – Mick Hanbury
- 11 Turn It On – Vol 1 – Jimmy Clewes
- 12 Turn It On – Vol 2 – Jimmy Clewes
- 13 Turn It On – Vol 3 – Jimmy Clewes
- 14 All Glued Up No1 – Sue Harker
- 15 Turned Out Nice Again – Sue Harker
- 16 Wood Turning with Steve Heeley – Steve Heeley
- 17 Woodcut Turning Tools
- 18 Robert Sorby Specialist Tools
- 19 Inlaid and Novelty Boxes – Chris Stott
- 20 Hope for us all – Simon Hope
- 21 Hope for us all – Vol2 – Simon Hope
- 22 Wet Turning With a Difference – Stuart Mortimer
- 23 AWGB Seminar 2011
- 24 Turning Green Wood – Michael O'DonnellID
- 25 Woodturning, a craftsman's guide. - Mark Baker

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



## Turning tips

This section is for any tips or advice you would like to pass on to other members. It doesn't matter what it is, if you discovered something you found useful, that you think may benefit others, please pass it on.



## Useful websites and suppliers

There is a lot of information available on the internet but some is better than others. If you come across any useful sites, please let me know and I will publish them here.

Suppliers used by Margaret Garrard

NSK Presto 11 Hand Piece  
Website NSK England  
Phone Alex or Tony 01438 310670

Cutting Burrs 1.6 size for NSK  
Dental Sky  
Phone 0800 2944700

Artool Ultra Mask  
Graphic Air  
Phone 01423 522836

Golden Airbrush Paints  
Copic Pens and Airbrush System  
Graphic Direct  
Phone Paul 01423 359730

Compressor  
Machine Mart  
But do look around for other suppliers.

Micro Machine and Cutters  
Woodart Products  
John 07770226640

## Items for sale or wanted

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

## For Sale

### Custom Toolrests – David Fields

David's 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.bellamy@mswa.co.uk](mailto:paul.bellamy@mswa.co.uk)