



Programme

Chairman's Notes

Future Events

MSWA Meetings

October 2nd
Hands-on Evening

November 6th
Andrew Hall
Hatmaker – back by popular
request

Club Competitions

October
Novice
Stylised Figure Shape

November
Challenge
Firework Theme

My notes this month have to record the death of Peter Worrall who was the Chairman of this club for the years 2005-2007, being succeeded by John Smith in 2008.



Peter Worrall - Chairman 2005 - 2007

Peter's Chairmanship was obviously well appreciated judging by the tributes paid to him in the January 2008 Newsletter, both for his qualities as a Chairman as well as a woodturner. Peter retained his membership of the MSWA although he was not able to attend meetings in recent times due to illness.

He was also a skilled photographer and very active in his local community as was evidenced by the full church at the memorial service in Wheaton Aston.

Our sympathy is with his family.

Philip Watts



Wood 'n' things



Editor's Scriblings

My thanks this month to Vance for providing the Demonstration Report for this month. Ted's first demonstration for the club was well appreciated by those present. Just follow Vance's description to complete your entry for the September Novice Competition.

I am often asked, as I am sure that some of you are, "So where do you get your wood?". In my case the answer seems to be that it just accumulates as people have trees removed from their gardens or clear out their garages and workshops.

A recent visit to Suffolk was an example. My sister-in-law and her son are keeping goats and wished to release them into a larger field. There are, or rather were, laburnum trees in that field. The pods of these trees are poisonous (You knew that didn't you) and so the trees had to be removed. The result was a return trip with a car boot full of wood. All that is needed now is the time and inclination to turn.

Philip Watts

Hands-on and Open Evening

We hope to have up to four lathes in operation on this evening. Come and learn how to turn Christmas Trees or how to make some alternatives to a proprietary four jaw chuck. David Winter will be there with his wood sales and, perhaps, also demonstrating how to make up one of the small project packs that he sells. Paul Bellamy is promising to attend with his lathe and will have some second-hand tools for sale.

So come along. There will be plenty to see and talk about. E-mail me at editor@mswa.co.uk if you have any special requests to see a particular technique or tool demonstrated and we endeavour to oblige,

Fair Warning

"Fair warning" is the cry just before the Auctioneer raps his gavel on the desk. Here is our fair warning.

You will have read in your June 2015 copy of the AWGB magazine "Revolutions" that the AWGB is increasing the AWGB subscriptions to £18 per Individual Member and £28 per Family Membership. This is relatively modest increase from a rate set in 2010 but is not one that the club can afford absorb. The increase will be passed through. However, your Committee has decided that for the moment the MSWA fees will remain unchanged although this will have to be kept under continuous review.

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



September Demonstration – Ted Gill

A stylised figure.



Ted began his demonstration with a series of photos and real examples of a variety of stylised figures showing how a basic form can be adapted and 'tweaked' to produce innovative figures. He then set about creating an, as yet, undisclosed figure leaving the audience to guess what it might be. By pure fluke some chap at the back shouting out random animals hit upon the subject of the demonstration – the elephant pictured below.



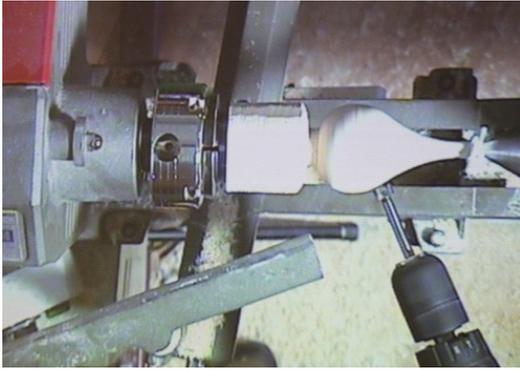
Ted mounted a piece of sycamore approximately 200mm x 70mm x 70mm between centres - which is long enough to produce the head and then later the ears. He reduced this to a cylinder with spindle roughing gouge and long grind spindle gouge and created a chucking spigot.



The cylinder was then mounted into a four jaw chuck retaining the tailstock support. The proportions required for the head and trunk were pencilled in and the shape of head leading into the trunk and the trunk itself were turned.



Wood 'n' things



Before fully turning the back of the head Ted marked the positions for holes to be drilled to take the eyes, ears and the body/neck.

These holes were drilled in situ using a hand held drill with different sizes of Forstner or saw tooth bits.*

Ted then removed the tailstock to give better access to the very end of the trunk which was hollowed out with the tip of a small spindle gouge.



Shaping of the back of the head and refinement of the overall shape continued until such time as the back was finally parted through.

This left a short section of sycamore in the chuck that was used to create the two ears. First the diameter of the cylinder was reduced and then the end of the cylinder was hollowed to give a shallow, concave recess. Then, by repeated stages using parting tool and spindle gouge, the back of the ear was turned to match the hollow of the front.



A small spigot was left in the centre which was turned to match the diameter of the hole that had been drilled in the head to receive it before it was sawn off.

The circular ear is then flattened on one edge to give a more realistic appearance. (Not demonstrated)

These stages were of course repeated to produce the second ear.



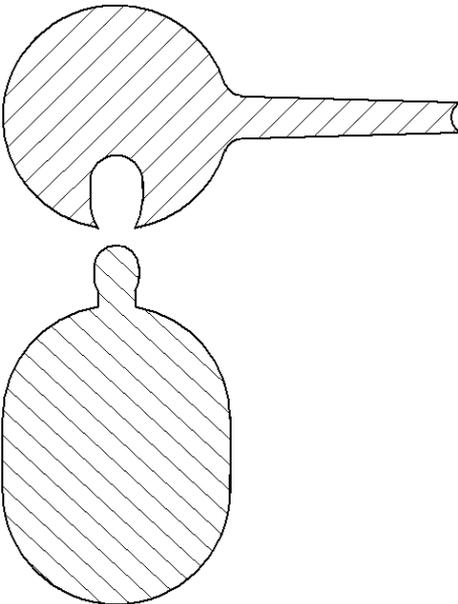
Wood 'n' things



Attention then turned (pardon the pun) to the Elephants body which I'm sorry to say I have only the one photo as I was busy totalling up the scores for the club competition! However it will be seen from the first photograph that a slightly shorter length of sycamore is needed and that the turning follows a similar process. The neck is reduced to fit the hole in the head leaving a 'ball end' shape on the end and finally four holes are drilled to take the four short legs that are turned to finish the item.

*It should be pointed out that Ted's intention was to make the head of the elephant *articulated*, so that it can be moved but without it coming off the body. To do this he intended to hollow out the inside/base of the neck hole drilled earlier using a Dremel or drill and an appropriate side cutting burr. When finished this hole would resemble a sort of tear drop shape with the hole wider at the bottom than the entrance hole. The turned neck of the body is turned very slightly larger than the entrance hole with and then reduced in diameter behind it as (not very clearly) shown in this, my only photo, of the process.

This diagram – not to scale – *might* help illustrate the idea.



The body can then be fitted into the hole drilled in the head with a very firm push!

The four legs are then turned and fitted to finish off the stylised figure. Ted finished by showing pictures of many more ideas and challenged the audience to produce something for next month's competition.



Wood 'n' things



October Competition

The Challenge Competition this month called for a Hollow Vessel with a decorated rim or lid. There were as many interpretations of the brief as there were entries.

Vance collected the most votes to take first place with an open vase decorated with pyrography.

John McElroy supplied a neat little box with a decorated lid.



Ted Gill followed in third place



Jane Russell and your Chairman provided the supporting cast.





Wood 'n' things



Club information

Your club committee for 2015 is:-

Chairman - Philip Watts

Email: chairman@mswa.co.uk

Tel. 0121 308 7838

Secretary – Dawn Hopley

Email: secretary@mswa.co.uk

Treasurer – Vance Lupton

Email: treasurer@mswa.co.uk

Assistant Treasurer – Hugh Field

Events Secretary – Ted Gill

Email: events@mswa.co.uk

Abrasives -

Newsletter editor – Philip Watts

Email: editor@mswa.co.uk

Webmanager – Philip Watts

Email: 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