



WOODBITS

NEWSLETTER

Issue 212

January 2024

Welcome

SHAVINGS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to the January 2024 newsletter. We have a lot to look forward to in the coming year with a full programme of meetings, training, and craft fair opportunities.

FEBRUARY MEETING - Our next meeting is on 13 th February and our demonstrator will be Emma Cook – AKA The Tiny Turner. It has been a while since we have seen Emma, and for our newest members I recommend an early arrival to bag a seat at the front. More details here - <https://www.thetinyturner.co.uk>

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNICATION - Our thanks go to all who have renewed their memberships promptly this year. Steve Hart has included a note in this edition regarding membership numbers and the growth of the club. Harvey Alison looks after the web media and has recently added an Instagram link to our website. This should increase the reach of the club and perhaps attract some future members. If you are an Instagram user, you might like to follow us - <https://www.instagram.com/hertsbedswoodturners/>

AND we would like to see your work on our Instagram page, so please send us your pictures.

TRAINING NEWS - Allen Kaye has been busy organising an AWGB accreditation process for four of our club members. This will further improve the quality and delivery of our in-house training sessions.

The February training session at the new Aylesbury location is now full, but more dates are available in 2024. Mel Williams, our training coordinator, includes details in this newsletter.

LIBRARY - The club tool library has been a modest success in 2023, with many items being loaned to members to “try before you buy”. The latest item is Paul Howard’s fluting jig and index system. Full details of the Lending Library are included in this edition.

FINALLY In December we heard of the death of Mike Sheaf, one of the founders and longest serving members of our club. His funeral was on Tuesday 23rd January and Peter Hoare and I attended on behalf of the club. Peter’s tribute appears in this edition.

See you on the 13th

Adam Blackie

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Club Secretary and Newsletter Editor: Allen Kaye secretary@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk

Club News

December Competition

Beginners

1st Sasha Smith



2nd Pete Pocock

3rd Otto Perowne



Advanced



1st Harvey Alison



2nd Phil Walters



3rd Andrew Holwerda

Open



1st Peter Kemp



3rd David Gebler

3rd – Steve Hart



Meetings Calendar

2024

| | | | |
|-----|------|------------------|--|
| Feb | 13th | Emma Cook | www.thetinyturner.co.uk/ |
| Mar | 12th | Terry Vaughan | |
| Apr | 9th | AGM + Demos | |
| May | 14th | Terry Smart | |
| Jun | 11th | Club Night | |
| Jul | 9th | Simon Hope | |
| Aug | 13th | Anna- Marie | |
| Sep | 10th | Club Night | |
| Oct | 8th | Steve Heeley | |
| Nov | 12th | Mick Hanbury ? | |
| Dec | 10th | Christmas Social | |

2025

| | | |
|-----|------|-----------------|
| Jan | 14th | Gary Rance? |
| Feb | 11th | Steven Kearvell |
| Mar | 11th | Stewart Furini |

Competition Subjects

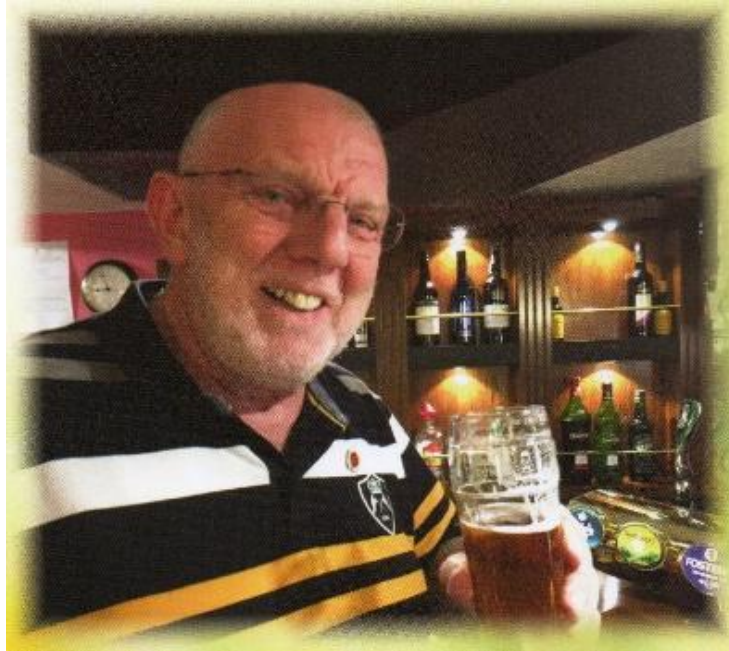
2024

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Feb | 12 to 15cm Dia. Bowl | Wool Bowl |
| Mar | Ring Finger | Something Offset |
| Apr | Egg Cup | Egg Shaped Box |
| May | Dibber | Goblet With One or More Rings |
| Jun | Candle Holder | Lidded Box |
| Jul | Plate or Platter | Something Stained or Painted |
| Aug | Any Style of Rolling Pin | Bowl on Feet |
| Sep | An Apple or Pear | Hollow Form |
| Oct | Paper Weight | Two or More Woods |
| Nov | Bud Vase | Pen/Pencil/Brush Holder |
| Dec | Xmas tree decoration | Pair Candle Holders |

Mike Sheaf

4 July 1943 to 17 Dec 2023

In December we received the sad news that Mike had passed away. Until only a few months ago he was attending meetings and making coffee or tea for us all at our regular “half time” break.



Mike was one of our club's founder members in July 1989 and for more than 20 years had been our club secretary. More recently, in addition to providing our meetings with refreshment, he arranged the supply of club branded polo shirts and fleeces, and as was typical of Mike's generosity, the proceeds went to charity.

Adam Blackie and I attended Mike's funeral and celebration of life on 23rd of January along with Mike's family and many friends. The crematorium at Stopsley has a capacity of 125 and there were very few empty seats. He was clearly a widely loved and well-regarded man.

We heard from the Celebrant that Mike's family ran a Dairy business in Luton for many years and I am sure anyone living in Luton would know the Company, which is now being run from Bedford by the fourth and fifth generations of the family. The family eulogy also recognised Mike's association with our club and made a point of mentioning this during the celebration of his life. I am sure that we shall all miss him.

The family's wish was for any donations in memory of Mike to go to Prostate Cancer UK or Diabetes UK. Club members wishing to make a donation can do so at memorygiving.com/michaelsheaf

Peter Hoare

Demonstration – Gary Rance

Yet again we were given a fascinating demonstration by our own Gary. Years of experience, good communication skills and excellent turning capabilities work together to great effect.

He started off with a useful safety reminder – shoes, goggles and mask. For demos he manages without a mask but avoids dust. At home he uses a powered respirator.

Initially some basic techniques were described and demonstrated. Turning a spindle blank to round and then the usual beads and coves. His default tool is the skew gouge – always sharp. Lots of useful comments peppered his talk and one important one is to keep the hand on top of the skew to avoid a catch causing the skew to leap upward and outward.

It is difficult to describe in text the processes but I found a useful youtube video describing the use of a skew for a beginner and the techniques seen there are not inconsistent with those used by Gary.

[How To Use A Skew Chisel - Tips & Techniques - WOOD magazine \(youtube.com\)](#)

It was clear that Gary always makes detailed designs prior to turning and constant use was made of vernier callipers in order to keep the final pieces exactly to his design. This gives repeatability when producing volumes of the same items. One of the most difficult things in woodturning apparently is to produce multiple items that are exactly the same hence such regular use of the vernier gauge or callipers. A further safety comment was to remove the sharp ends of verniers to avoid the tips catching. Alternatively wait until the lathe has stopped to check diameters.

For the rest of the demo Gary chose to demonstrate the turning of a Peppermill. He found one in a charity shop and used that as a basis for his design. One interesting comment was that when he uses his chuck to hold wood, he marks the wood with the jaw numbers so that when he returns the piece to the chuck later it is more likely to run true.

Also – it was important he noted that he drills the central hole in a blank **before** turning as doing it after cannot guarantee the hole runs in the centre.

Gary continued to make the body and then top of the peppermill.





When finishing he chooses to sand at the back and this means he does not need to move the tool rest out.

This seems a small thing but as a production turner, small time saving techniques such as these can save many hours when producing hundreds of peppermills.

See photo on left.

Following a question Gary said that in his own workshop it would take around 15 minutes to produce one of these peppermills.

Note: Gary was awarded the honour of Master in Turning, in recognition of his contribution the art and mystery of the craft of turning. This was awarded by an Electoral College consisting of the Worshipful Company of Turners, The Society of Ornamental Turners, The Association of Pole Lathe Turners and Green Woodworkers.

His website is [Gary Rance](#)



Training support from the AWGB

As a member of the AWGB, everyone has access to the support they offer.

There are various threads to this support – at one level they provide member training workshops for individuals who wish to develop their own skills further. They also offer demonstrator training and ‘training the trainer’ opportunities for those who want to hone their skills at teaching others.

Already planned by the AWGB the following is a list of opportunities in the new year. If you are interested then follow the link below to see the application process.

[Member Training Workshops – AWGB](#)

| 2024 | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 8 March | Beginner - Intermediate | Small plate / Apple / Pear | Gary Rance | Wendover, Buckinghamshire |
| 9 April | Intermediate | Thread Chasing | Simon Hope | Great Bromley, Essex, CO7 7TR |
| 18 May | Beginner | Basic bowl | Les Thorne | The Woodturning Shop, Four marks, Hampshire |
| 18 May | Beginner - Intermediate | Improving tool techniques | Darren Crisp | Shaws Burn Woodturning Studio, Ashgill, Scotland |
| 1 June | Intermediate | Table Lamp | Dennis Wake | Hartlepool Enterprise Centre, County Durham |
| 11 July | Beginner - Intermediate | Novelty animals | Kate Kitchin | Tingley, Wakefield |
| 7 September | Intermediate | Platter | Dennis Wake | Hartlepool Enterprise Centre, County Durham |
| 1 October | Intermediate - Advanced | Bowl & colour | Mick Hanbury | Turners Retreat |
| 11 October | Beginner - Intermediate | Humming Top | Gary Rance | Wendover, Buckinghamshire |
| 6 November | Beginner - Intermediate | Texture and colour | Chris Parker | Leyland, Lancashire |

Herts and Beds Training News

Member Training

The arrangements for the beginner's basics training sessions have now been completed. Our new training location is at the Queens Park Arts Centre, Aylesbury.

The sessions will cover the basics of woodturning and some simple projects for beginners. If you are more confident and would like to suggest something a little more advanced, please do suggest some of your own ideas. We aim to train 4-5 people at each session, depending on the availability and skills of our volunteer trainers. In January 2024 four of our volunteer trainers will be undergoing the AWGB Instructor assessment. This will increase the quality and qualifications available to the club. If you are willing to help as a volunteer trainer (no experience necessary) please do get in touch with me. The more we can spread the load, the better results for the club.

The sessions run from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm and the cost is £25 a head for each trainee. Training dates have been arranged as follows:

3rd February – Fully Booked

20th April – Confirmed date and open for bookings

19th October – Provisional date and open for bookings.

That's all for now.

Mel Williams - Contact me on – training@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk

Training the Trainers

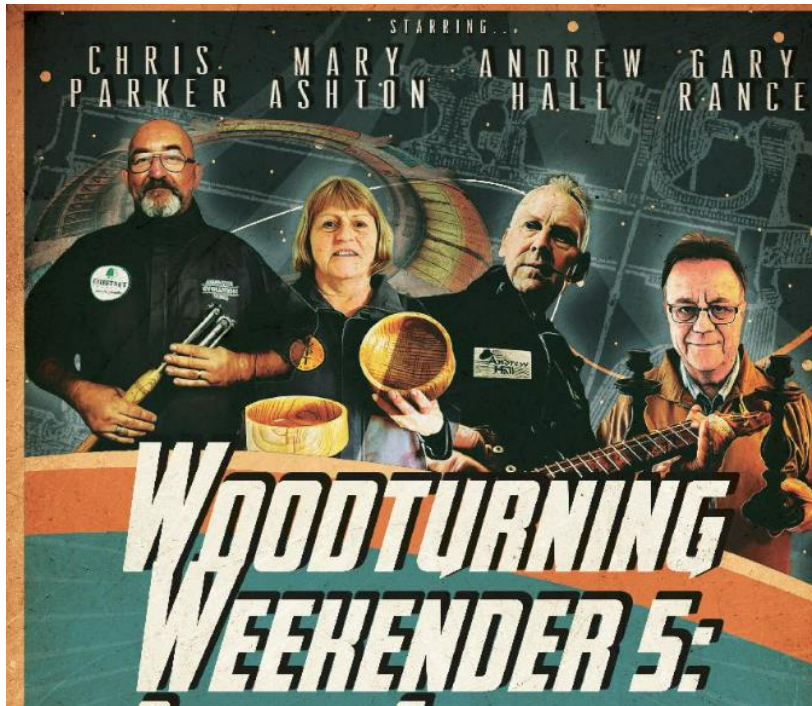
The club has always offered both informal and formal training to members for many years but given the increased focus on this in recent years, four of us decided to take advantage of the AWGB's 'Training the Trainers' arrangements by which one of their development people comes to us for a day to observe and assess our capabilities. Apart from giving increased confidence to our members when training, it is also an opportunity for us as trainers to reflect on our skills and techniques, both as turners and communicators.

The four trainers involved are Harvey Alison, Peter Hoare, myself and Adam Blackie. Essentially, we will be observed by someone from the AWGB undertaking some practical turning ourselves and then working with a trainee. If you want to find out more then ask any of us. We will be organising this again so if you are interested, please contact anyone on the committee.

We also want to thank the volunteer trainees who have offered to give up some time to work with us on the day. They are Mel Williams, James Blackie, Bill Montgomery, Paul Boyes and Steve Hart. Without their support we could not run the event. Thanks also to Mel who found and liaised with these volunteers.

Allen Kaye

Chestnut weekender



Check out the link to the Chestnut Products Woodturning Weekender next year.

[Woodturning Weekender 2024 | Chestnut Products - First for Finishes](#)

One of our members, Alan Wigginton is already planning to go and would be happy to find other members interested and arrange a car share – if interested email him on beechbum678@gmail.com

PS – Note the famous face on the right of the poster. If you want more info about the Weekender have a word with him at our next meeting.

Allen

Projects

Skittles – Phil Walters

As a, comparatively, new turner I was pleased to have been asked to write a piece about my 2nd placed entry of a Bar Skittles set in December 2023. I am delighted that the set caught the attention of the group and enough interest to warrant an article about it. However, please be warned I am no author of professional articles.

The skittles are made from Iroko using a pen mandrel with 8mm bushes. I tried several shapes but found that the simple barrel worked best when playing the game.

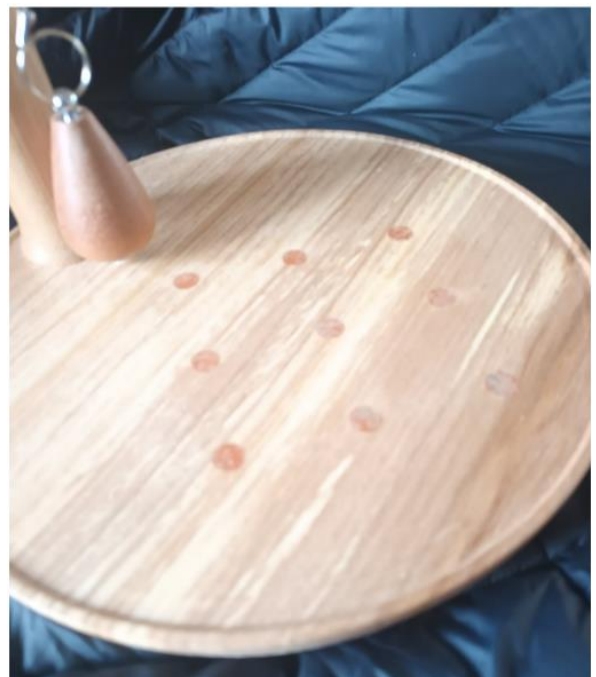


The base and top diameter is 20mm and at the widest is 27.5mm (though I admit my ability to turn 9 identical skittles is woeful at present).

The centre was then filled with beech dowel of 8mm diameter. I used Starbond 2 part epoxy to secure the dowel. Top and bottom were sanded flat using a sanding disk in a Jacobs chuck attached to the headstock of my lathe. I then oiled them with Chestnut products finishing oil.

The base is from an English walnut blank purchased from Southeast Hardwoods and measures 24.5cm in diameter and 4 cm in height. The blank was attached to the chuck with a mortise which has not been refined. The outer/lower part is a basic bowl shape.

The upper part on which the game is played was turned flat with a 1.5mm wide by 1.5mm tall rim which is purely for aesthetics. A 20mm diameter hole of 10mm depth was bored close to the edge of the blank to form a mortise for the post. The grid is 9cm x 9cm in a diamond. A 10mm drill bit was used to make the 9 holes which were filled with terracotta Milliput before a final trim, sanding and oiling to finish.





The upright is from an oak stair spindle which I picked up cheaply from B&Q because it was damaged. A 7mm hole was drilled through the spindle prior to turning at what would become the top of the post (I had wasted one post by trying to drill through after turning and being unable to achieve a straight hole). At the base it is 35mm leading out to a slightly wider flare which helps to bond the post to the base achieved with a 10mm tall by 20mm diameter tenon. It tapers to 20mm just below the ball at the top to which the chain is attached. The ball is 35mm in diameter.

The overall height of the post is 29.5cm including the 10mm tenon and the ball at the top. I used a key fob kit with a 35mm tube to form an attachment point for the wrecking ball chain. (Note: I do not possess a steady rest and found that I could not really achieve the finesse I would have liked to on this part of the make e.g. refine the ball better and increase the taper).

The “wrecking ball” is made from Iroko on a pen mandrel using 7mm bushes. It has a key fob kit with a 50mm tube and is therefore 50mm tall. At its widest it is 35mm in diameter and is an elongated egg shape. The wrecking ball is attached to the post with ball link chain. The post was then glued into its mortise with 2 part epoxy ensuring that the chain was facing the skittles.



Wood Lathe Safety

The training events that the club has been arranging has prompted a review of our safety procedures and safety in the workshop in general.

I reproduce here an article I produced some years ago for your interest. I have left the Covid paragraph in as we know that it is still out there in our communities and the guidance also relates to other similar infections carried in the air. Allen

General Guidelines

- Personal Protective Equipment.
 - Eye protection is mandatory.
 - A dust mask is optional for cutting but mandatory for dust-creating activities (scraping / sanding / dry wood etc.)
 - Gloves should not be worn due to risk of entanglement.
- Remove dangling clothing and jewelry. Tie back long hair.
- Ensure your work piece is sound and securely attached. Check frequently.
- Unplug the lathe when changing speed ranges with the pulleys
- Ensure all components are secured before turning on: headstock; tailstock; tool rest; workpiece.
- Ensure workpiece is balanced, start at low speed when turning to round
- Spin the workpiece manually to check balance and check for obstructions
- Be aware of others in the workshop - advise others to put on a dust mask if needed
- Be aware of slip hazards, e.g. wood shavings!

Handling Dust

- Fine dust is possibly the most serious long-term health hazard of woodturning.
- Be aware of the hazards of materials you are using. Dry woods create more dust than green (wet) wood. Some woods are toxic, e.g. Yew and Laburnum. MDF contains toxic glues.
- Also be aware that spalted wood (with black stains) may have fungus spores in if the wood has not been kiln dried. These can be harmful, extraction should be used.

MASKS

- Wood lathe users must have their own dust mask.
- Woodworking masks have different standards (based on percentage and size of particulates filtered). P2 or P3 standard is highly recommended. The mask should be well-fitted to ensure efficacy.
- Single-use (disposable) masks are not recommended since they often have a poor fit, and are expensive.
- Non-powered respirators are the most common choice, e.g.: [Respiratory Protection - Non Powered](#). Consider the cost of replacement filters, and also fit. Some masks are bulky, and may be difficult to wear with (safety) glasses. Full-face respirators include a visor.
- Powered respirators are expensive but may be useful for the regular turner.

SANDING

- Sanding produces a lot of dust – get the best finish you can off the (sharp!) tools
- Wear a dust mask while sanding
- Extraction must always be used – either a main workshop device or vacuum at the machine
- A respirator alone is not sufficient, since dust particles can remain in the air for hours, affecting you and other workshop users
- Dust in the air is a hazard to all workshop users, therefore extraction **MUST** be used whenever you are creating dust, to reduce the levels in the air.
- Cutting clean, moist wood with a sharp tool will produce large shavings which are not hazardous. At all other times, use extraction.
- If in doubt, use extraction.

TOOLS

- Understand the safe usage of each tool when woodturning. The primary risk is what happens if the tool becomes embedded in the workpiece during turning 'catch'.
- Keep tools sharp
- Scrapers produce lots of dust. Mask and extraction must be used at all times when using these tools.

CONTROLS

- On a new lathe check the position of the power and emergency stop buttons
- If the lathe can be run in forward or reverse direction., the following must always be observed:
 - Cutting must only be done when the workpiece is turning downwards towards the toolrest. This is forwards for normal right-handed turning.
 - When turning in reverse, the grubscrews on the chuck must be checked for secureness. If these are loose, the chuck may unscrew from the spindle.

Finishes

- Many finishes can be used for woodturning, precautions for finishes are varied and depend on the individual finishes. The following common principles apply:
 - Many finishes are flammable, cloths for application should be disposed of safely (be aware of the possibility of spontaneous combustion for some finishes)
 - Hazardous finishes should not be applied when the lathe is on, e.g. superglue, due to the risk of spray.

COVID!

- Woodworking masks do not filter **OUTGOING** air. They are not designed to protect others from disease.
- Surgical and cloth masks are not rated for woodworking, if clogged with dust, they are unlikely to be effective.
- Only a woodworking rated mask is acceptable for using the wood-lathe. You should social-distance appropriately. Advise others to avoid you during woodturning if you are in doubt.

Library

TOOL LENDING LIBRARY

The tool lending library now includes the following items:

WoodArt Products 35K Micro-drill detailer kit

Suitable for drilling, piercing, carving, and texturing. This handpiece has been developed from laboratory tooling and adapted for craft use. It incorporates two spaced sealed ball bearings on the chuck shaft for strength and smooth running. This is coupled to a powerful high-speed DC motor.

Robert Sorby ProEdge Sharpening System

The Robert Sorby ProEdge offers effortlessly repeatable sharpening every time. Hugely versatile, this industrial strength machine is built to last and delivers astounding 'factory finish' results without fail.

Lion Art Deep Hollowing Tool

Take all the stress out of deep hollowing. Here is the latest version of Tony Taylor's Lion Wood Art deep hollowing jig. It comes complete with instructions and a user guide.

Crown Spiralling Tool + Knurling Tool

The Crown spiralling and texturing tool brings a new dimension to decorating turned work. Use it to add a multitude of patterns, textures, and effects to enhance your work.

Hamlet Brother System 2 Deep Hollowing system.

It's a monster tool, 26 inch handle and an extension almost as long, virtually limitless depth potential with this.

Captive Ring Cutter

Used to produce rings that remain captured in the workpiece. It can be used Left and right handed and is 9.5mm 3/8" in diameter.

WOODCUT BOWLSAVER Bowl Coring System.

The Woodcut Bowlsaver Bowl Coring System's simple design is easy to use for turners of all abilities. Core a (maximum size) 14" x 6" blank in less than five minutes.

Axminster AWSL Benchtop Lathe

The club has three AXMINSTER AWSL lathes that club members can borrow. It will be particularly useful to any NEW MEMBERS who do not yet have a lathe and would like to try turning at home. The lathe can also be lent with a beginners set of woodturning tools.

HOPE carving jig.

Fits into the banjo and is fully adjustable. Allows the chuck to screw on and then hold your workpiece at a comfortable angle in front of you to carve and, or paint.

Peter Child Artist's Pyrography Machine

Widely regarded as the machine of choice by many professionals. Powerful enough to create dense textures and patterns. It is slim, light and comfortable to use. manufactured by Robert Sorby, the build quality and attention to detail is of the highest standard.

Charnwood Pen and Keyring Turning Kit and Bottle Opener Mandrel

This complete 1 MT AND 2MT Pen turning kit contains all the tools you need to start pen turning.

Planet Long Hole Boring Kit Deluxe – MT2

The new Rotur Long Hole Boring Kit comes with a 2MT centre and a 5/16" x 24" Lip and spur boring bit for making lamp stands or drilling out other spindle work on a lathe.

Paul Howard Sphere Jig

This jig fits onto lathes with a centre height of between 125mm (10" swing) to 280mm (22" swing)

Ashley Isles 16 TPI UNI-CHASER MALE & FEMALE THREAD CHASING TOOL

This one tool chases both male and female threads. - 16 TPI Uni-Chaser Male & Female Thread

Tenfer Woodturning Steady Rest for 12 inch Swing Medium Size Lathe

The Lathe steady rest is great for eliminating the vibration and wobble while turning long and slender pieces. The base of this steady rest has adjustable spacer blocks providing a secure fit on lathe beds. The non-marring wheels have a wide range of movement so it can be used as a bowl rest as well as a steady rest.

NEW ITEM FOR JANUARY 2024

Paul Howards fluting jig AND index system.

Height-adjustable fluting jig for processing surfaces in long and cross timber. Due to the numerous setting options, the jig can be adapted to almost any workpiece. The jig can be used to make decorative millings, bores, and fluting in bowls, balusters, columns, table legs, boxes, spheres, and other turning work. The device is guided by hand over a plate fixed to the bench bed.

Lending Library Process and Rules

The **value to the club** is that Club members can try before they buy or Club members can borrow a tool for a specific job.

How does this work? To borrow a tool, simply contact Adam Blackie who will confirm availability and then arrange for the item to be available for collection. Items will be available for collection at the next club meeting, (or in person by arrangement.)

How long can I keep the tools for? This depends on the project, but generally we expect the tools to be returned in usable condition at the next available club meeting. Longer term loans by negotiation.

How much will it cost? It's normally free of charge. **If you break it or If the tool uses consumable items** (inc. sanding pads, grinding belts, stains and polishes, pen kits) we would expect some contribution towards the replacement.

What else do I need to know? Once the loan is completed we ask that you share a little about your experience of the tools with the club. e.g. Show and tell what you made or an article for the monthly newsletter.

Tool Library Contact

Adam Blackie

07941 270640

treasurer@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk

Craft Fair

I had a note from Jon Bailey who you may remember gave us an excellent demo of pole lathe turning last year. He is attending a Woodland Craft Show with a group of craftspeople. Details below

Experience the Magic of Nature at the Wandlebury Greenwood Weekend!

Dates: Saturday, 2nd March and Sunday, 3rd March

Location: Wandlebury Country Park

Event Highlights:

- **Greenwood Adventures:** Journey into the heart of the woods, about 100m from the stable block, for an immersive greenwood experience. Join us for activities like shelter building, sawing, splitting, and draw-knifing. Suitable for adults and children with supervision.
- **Special Guest Appearance:** Say hello to Norman the Hedgehog, emerging early from hibernation, ready to show off his new spines! A delightful encounter for the little ones.
- **Craft and Creativity:** The stable block area, graced by two open-sided marquees, offers a sheltered workspace. It's a perfect spot for crafts.

For info Jon has created a series of 5 Youtube videos explaining the whole process of bowl making on a pole lathe. Have a look. This is a link to Part 1.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FnIToFw8J_M&t=2s

Allen

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Help Needed and for Sale/Wanted

Lathe help

A recent member Jack Parker has a Arundel J4 Junior lathe. He is looking for any advice and guidance relating to this lathe – such things as Chuck size, model specification. Ideally if anyone has information about where he might find a manual, he would be most appreciative.

If you think you can help, contact Jack at jack.parker.0394@gmail.com

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Small clamps

I make wooden memory box kits for groups of individuals who have dementia. The groups are in Hatfield and Welwyn Garden City and typically organised by the local authority to give the carers of those affected by Dementia a bit of a break for a day.

My input is to organise sessions by which people can over time construct a wooden memory box but as the groups get larger I need lots and lots of small clamps for short times – maybe 2 weeks. The next group could be quite large and as they all work together I need dozens of clamps all at the same time.

So, my request is for anyone who could lend me any sets of clamps for a short time – the next session is on the 23rd February. I will label them and keep them safe. If you have some clamps that I could borrow then please contact me.

Allen

allen.kaye@bath.edu

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Woodturning Kit wanted

Andrew Lee is a new member to the club and is trying to get a decent set of wood turning tools.

He has a number of cheap gouges but lack a decent half inch, 3/4 inch or 1 inch HSS roughing gouge. If there is any kind soul in the club that has any of these gouges going spare/for sale he would be very interested.

His contact details are:

Andrew Lee

mob 07717760812

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Wood for sale

As noted last month, we were contacted through the website by Geoff Harris – he is a fellow woodturner and has a large stock of hardwood he wants to sell. The wood includes oak, ash, rose woods, sapeles, boxwood, walnut, pear and more, well dried and suitable for turning.

He still has wood for sale and is based Between Royston and Cambridge and contact numbers are 01223208850 or 07971544517

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Poetry Corner

ALWAYS (mostly) RIGHT!

Seeing something soonest, being mostly right
In advance of your peers, can be a blight
Oft not good
Always by them misunderstood
This is the cross to bear, unjust , so not fair
Can't help a quick wit in repartee's flair
Deluges of blinding flashes of inspiration
Serve to highlight this brilliant station
Regretfully not a happy place to be
When you are the first to see
An inevitable outcome in the light of events
Leaving all those around you unfavourably tense
The saying is She married Mr Right
But didn't know his middle name was always
These tongue in cheek observations complete the phase
By leaving no room for third party praise

Martin Sexton January 2024