



WOODBITS

NEWSLETTER

Issue 197

October 2022

Welcome

SHAVINGS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hello

We had an excellent meeting on the 11th October with a demo from Carlyn Lindsay who, amongst other things did one of the best live demonstrations of thread chasing I've seen. A review of her demonstration appears elsewhere in this newsletter. We had 52 people attending including 8 guests many of whom "discovered us" after visiting our new website. (Thanks to Harvey Alison our webmaster). At least four of these visitors have now been signed up by our treasurer Adam to full membership which brings the total to 79. So we can celebrate the fact that our club is thriving and has almost fully recovered after the catastrophic drop in membership during the COVID pandemic.

Competition judging

The new feature of allocating 10 minutes before the evening break for members to view and vote on the competition entries seemed to work well on the 11th and did full justice to some superb entries in most categories but more beginners entries would be warmly welcomed. This new viewing/judging routine will therefore be repeated for future meetings.

Demonstrations – Looking forward to events in 2023!

Grahame (Tomkins) our demo manager is doing a fantastic job in seeking out demonstrators and the 2023 line-up so far includes Martin Saban Smith (<https://msabansmith.com/>), Stewart Furini (<https://www.stewartfuriniwoodturning.co.uk/>) and Stephen Madden (<https://www.wooddude.co.uk/>). Do contact Grahame if you have any demonstrator suggestions.

Training Initiatives Update

At the 11th October meeting, a sheet was put out for all members wanting woodturning training to register an interest. Nothing has been scheduled for 2023 yet as we want to see how much demand there is. **So far we have only had 5 signatures.** So please do sign up if you are interested, the registration sheet will be available at both the November and December meetings. Training costs will be partially offset by the Club and two options are on offer:

- **Professional Training** with registered professional turner Les Thorne at his Hampshire workshop.
- **Adeyfield Training** in the smaller Training Room at Adeyfield, lead by the Club's dedicated training team. The Adeyfield training will also have the growing collection of tools in the Club's Equipment Lending Library at it's disposal.

Do feel free to sign up for both the professional and the Adeyfield based training options if you wish.

- **Trainer Training.** We also intend to provide professional training (again provided by Les Thorne) for the Club's intrepid training team (to include the trainers who took part in this year's July session). This will be wholly subsidised from Club funds.

Equipment lending Library

Under Adam's enthusiastic management we now have an impressive and expanding range of equipment for members to borrow (and use in the training sessions). This includes the three smaller club lathes (with turning tools) which should be of particular use to those members who have yet to acquire a lathe. Please keep the suggestions coming in for more equipment. An up-to-date list of the available kit can be found on the Club's website:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NpO2vHVrDZiyEaN-u4cSxi0c0lgCU8cz/>

Shaving of the Month; Location as a selling aid.

Working over many years for a museum in North East England taught me that the most vital aspect of any object displayed to our visitors was the quality of its associated information (what, where and when).

Now I'm in retirement as a hobby woodturner, I can't kick the curator's habit of insisting on knowing exactly where my turning wood comes from. Surprisingly I have found that passing this information on to customers confers a huge sales advantage.

For example, I have permission to harvest some superb timber produced in the management of the many trees in my local park (Cassiobury Park, Watford) some of which are hundreds of years old. I am a member of the Friends of Cassiobury Park who work closely with the council in managing and maintaining the Park, and the turnings are used for fundraising at their AGM.

2021 was the first time we tried this out with fourteen Horse Chestnut turnings. Much to my amazement, all the turned items sold out very quickly and I had a waiting list of potential customers wanting more! Next up will be some Oak and Alder turnings. So it really pays off (excuse the pun!) to publicise the source of your wood when selling turnings from a well-loved location to local customers.



A Horse Chestnut bowl with a pyrographed identification and provenance.

Well that wraps it up for another month from me but do enjoy another brilliant issue of *Woodbits* put together by Allen. I shall look forward to seeing everyone at the November meeting.

Tim

Chairman: Tim Pettigrew chairman@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk

Treasurer: Adam Blackie treasurer@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk

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

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Club News

October Competition

This month, the judging was by member vote.

Beginners



1st Phil Walters

I thought I would leave this space empty for a reminder that next month
the beginner's topic is:

a tool handle, a tool handle..

A useful and practical spindle turning only project!

You still have two weeks left

Allen

Advanced



1st Harvey Alison



2nd Peter Hoare



< 3rd= Tony Taylor

3rd= Andrew Holwerda >



Open

1st Phil Scoltock



2nd Peter Hoare



3rd Tony Taylor

Meetings Calendar 2022/2023

8th Nov Jon Bailey Pole Turning Demonstration
13th Dec Christmas Social

May 9th Chris Parker (the Bald Woodturner)

July 11th Darren Greaves (*provisional*)

August 8th M Saban Smith

Club Sweatshirts and Polo shirts

These are available from Mike Sheaf. They are blue and inscribed with the club logo. You can also add your name embroidered at no extra cost.

Sweatshirt. £19.00

Polo Shirt. £16.00.

Polo Shirt Long sleeves. £17.00.

Sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

Forms for ordering are available from Mike Sheaf or the secretary. All forms to be returned to Mike.

Profits go to the Rennie Hospice

For more details or to order see Mike at one of our meetings or email him at:

michael.sheaf@gmail.com

Raffle

I am always looking for the usual helpers and newbies to help buy the goodies for the raffle. Please contact me if you can help.

At the moment only May is covered and I need volunteers for the rest of the year. As a volunteer you would be responsible for choosing and buying a selection of up to 6 prizes up to a total of £60 and then bringing them along to the meeting where I will recompense you for the money spent.

If you commit to a particular night but need to swap it contact me so that cover can be maintained

Full receipts are required for each spend made

If you need to discuss any of this information with me, feel free to do so

Steve Beadle

Herts and Beds Raffle Coordinator

Tel 07720 677456

Email ~ Stevebeadle1960@hotmail.co.uk

Competition Subjects 2022

Month	Beginners	Advanced
Nov	Tool handle	Box with finial
Dec	Christmas tree	A toy

Competition subjects 2023

Month	Beginners	Advanced
Jan	Eggcup	Kendama
Feb	Small bowl	Lidded box
Mar	Spinning top	Goblet
April	Bud vase	Decorated platter
May	Bottle stopper	Hollow form
Jun	Light pull	String box
Jul	Kitchen roll holder	Pepper mill
Aug	Coaster	Tankard or mug
Sept	Dice shaker	Piece using two or more woods
Oct	Apple	Pen
Nov	Plate	Natural edge bowl
Dec	Christmas tree	Puzzle or game

Project Table

Any and all items are welcomed for the project table. These will not be judged and might include unfinished items as well as ones that 'did not quite work out as planned'

Video Loan

The video box is available by the sales table – no charge to borrow with an expectation that they will be returned by the following meeting.

Updated website

Harvey and Adam have collaborated to update the club website with a benefits of membership section, with a link to the up to date tool lending library:

<https://hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk/membership>

Bug testing and suggestions for improvement are very welcome.

Harvey

Demonstration – Carlyn Lyndsay

Review and photos by Tony Taylor

Carlyn explained how she came to woodturning quite by chance after establishing her career in artistic woodwork especially through the use of lamination techniques. She became intrigued by the visual effects of turned surfaces intersecting laminations and this has become her speciality. On this occasion she chose to demonstrate making a small jewel box with a screw lid bearing a laminated finial.

The first step was to make the male and female threaded inserts from Box wood.

The male part was turned to 15 mm diameter and then threaded with a 20 tpi chaser. It is important to make a small chamfer on the end, to cut a slot for the chaser to run out and to apply some wax. The lathe should run at about 500 rpm and the chaser presented exactly on centre and moved smoothly from right to left in a series of strokes till the thread has reached full depth.



An 8 mm hole was drilled (to eventually receive the finial tenon) and a short section parted off. The female part was shaped then drilled with a hole 1.5 mm less in diameter than the male part. After making a small lead-in chamfer and applying wax, the internal thread was chased as before. It was necessary to test and to cut the thread deeper until the fit was perfect.



The laminated block for the finial had been prepared previously from Sycamore with dyed veneers and Lyndsay explained briefly how this was done and the precision required.



The block, about 2 cm square and 15 cm long was mounted between centres. It is very important to get the centring perfect. A short section was turned to fit the small jaws of the chuck then the end turned to fit into the hole in the male threaded part, which was super glued in place. Whilst still supported by the tailstock, the opportunity was taken to roughly turn the finial to shape. For the box itself a block of Sycamore was mounted in the chuck (cross grain) and a hole cut to receive the female threaded collar, which was glued in place.

The block was hollowed using a Henry Taylor hook tool. Now the laminated piece could be screwed into the box and finish turned.

The final stage was to shape the base to form a spinning top and to fit an Ebony point.

There was such a lot of content in the demonstration that it was difficult to complete in the time available, but the club members very much appreciated it and some will surely be stimulated to try the ideas for themselves.

Tony Taylor





Woodturning Courses with Gary Rance Autumn 2022

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| ◆ Friday 21 st October | Spindle Turning |
| ◆ Friday 2 nd November | Box Turning |
| ◆ Friday 18 th November | Bowl Turning |

Based in our well appointed work shop at Road Farm, each course runs from 9am – 4pm, and includes tea and coffee refreshments. Please bring a packed lunch.

Cost: £125 per person per course, £70 Deposit at time of booking, balance to be paid on the day. There will be a maximum of 4 people on each course.

Ideal for those with some woodturning experience who would like to refine their skills and techniques. Must be over 15 years old.

All tools, materials and safety equipment is provided.

Book online at:

<https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BXWP>

Or contact us via email or telephone

office.rfcountryways@gmail.com

Tel: 01494 862413

www.roadfarmcountryways.com



Gary is a long standing member of the club – check out his website (link below) for details of his work.

[Gary Rance](#)

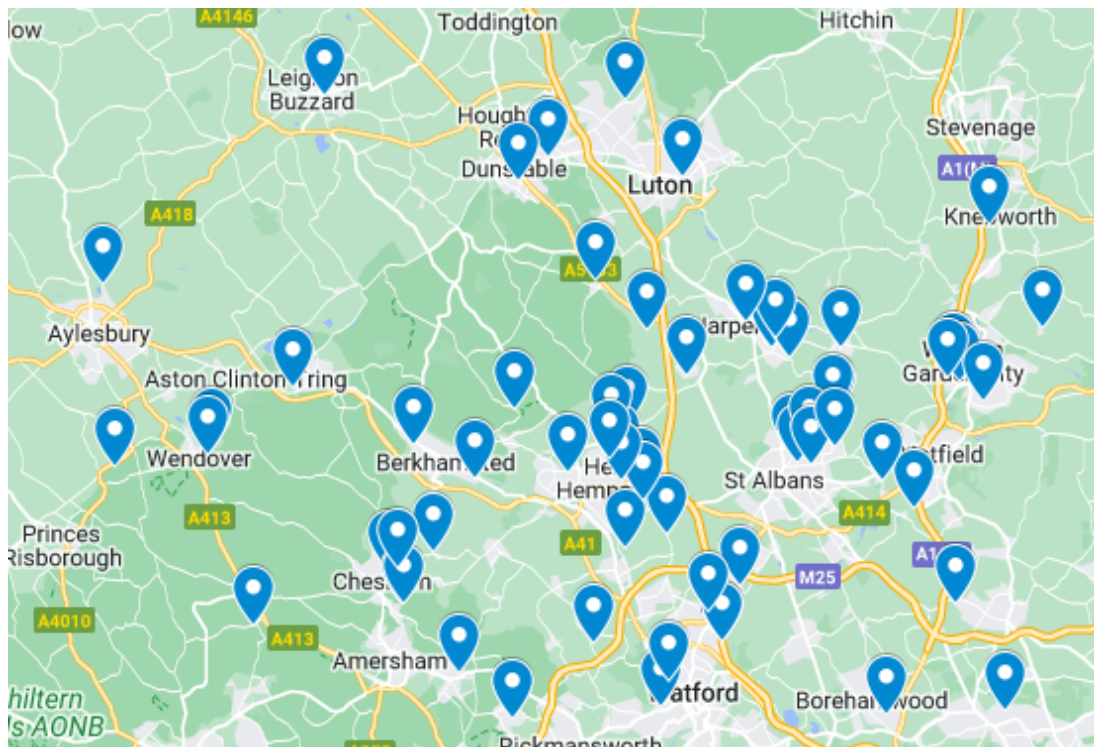
Can you share a lift to / from club meetings?

I already know of one or two members who car-share and wanted to ask others if they would be prepared to do the same for some of our older or less abled members.

Several of our members are maturing nicely. Unfortunately for some this comes with a reluctance to drive at nights or with a general difficulty in driving their cars, particularly on dark winter nights.

It would also make sense given the occasional pressure for parking spaces at Adeyfield.

This map shows the possibilities from the wide spread of member locations.



Our Club Members Locations

Sharing also has the spin off that you get to spend some quality time with your fellow members before and / or after meetings.

Return journeys only?

It's possible. Personally, I have arranged a one way car-share on my return journey. I drop off a member whose wife brings him to the club.

(I simply expect an occasional cake or two for relieving her of a second journey on club nights 😊)

Interested?

Simply let me know and I will match locations and then make the introductions.

Adam Blackie

Note – We already have a member who lives in North Luton area asking for help in getting into Adeyfield for club nights. If you think you can help, contact Adam who has more details.

FROGMORE CHRISTMAS FAIR

Appeal for items to sell for club funds

Several members will be representing the club at the Frogmore Paper Mill, Christmas Craft Fair which will be held on Sunday 4th December between 11am and 4pm.



Peter Hoare and Keith Harrup in 2021.

There is usually lots of exciting craft work on sale from artisan makers, just in time for your Christmas shopping.

We will be taking one of the club's small Axminster Lathes as this usually acts as a great draw for the visitors to the fair. It would also be good to see club members on the day so please say hello if you attend. Every year I ask for any contributions from club members to sell for club funds.

Anything will do, but as it's a Christmas Fair, Trees and snowmen, always go down well with the visitors. Here are some that Keith Goddard has made recently.

So, if you have a few moments to spare before our next meeting on November 8th, I will be very happy to accept any donations at the club meeting welcome table.



<https://www.frogmorepapermill.org.uk/craft-fair/>

TOOL LENDING LIBRARY

New Items added this month

The full list of available items can be seen on [our website](#)

IF you have suggestions for other tools please send your ideas to Adam Blackie –at Treasurer@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk

WoodArt Products 35K Micro-drill detailer kit - INC 15 assorted cutters

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.

With suitable cutters, this is suitable for drilling and piercing on thin walled wood-turned items, and surface carving / texturing on wood-crafted items.



Crown Spiralling Tool

This miniature 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.

It comes complete with two spiralling wheels; a seventeen tooth and a twenty-seven tooth. The wheels are high speed steel, suitable for both hard and soft woods. Made in England.

More details can be seen here - <https://www.axminstertools.com/crown-mini-spiralling-tool-952463>

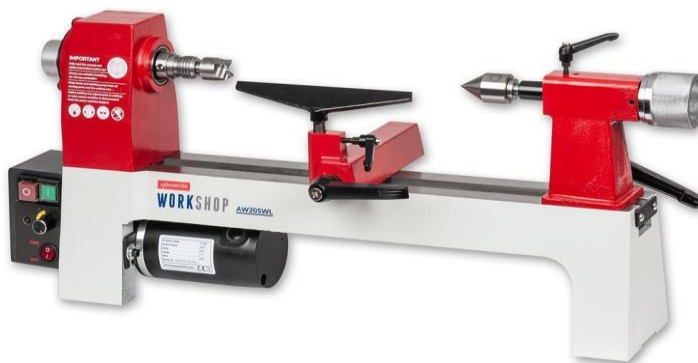


Axminster AWSL Benchtop Lathe

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. It's a bench mounted lathe so needs very little space to set-up. The lathe can also be lent with a beginners set of woodturning tools.

More details on the Axminster range of benchtop lathes can be seen here.

<https://www.axminstertools.com/axminster-workshop-aw205wl-woodturning-lathe-230v-107699>



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. A nice feature is that the axis is indexed so when you loosen the handle to move, it doesn't fall and damage your work piece.

We have the full range of tool posts and chuck threads, so it will fit most lathe beds.



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.

Perfect for precise detailed work, warms from cold in 2 seconds. The club model includes a range of pen tips to try and comes with a range of nickel wire so you can make up your own pen tips to suit own project.

More details can be seen here. https://www.ockenden-timber.co.uk/tools-accessories-pyrography-c-107_545/peter-child-artists-pyrography-machine-p-2152



Lending Library Status and Rules

This is intended as a lending library of the more esoteric or expensive tools that turners use infrequently. 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, however:

- If you break it or
- If the tool uses consumable items (inc. sanding pads, grinding belts, stains and polishes)

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

Multi Axis Turning – Terainia Hird

I made my first multi axis turning a couple of years ago after seeing a YouTube video by Barbara Dill. Some of the turnings she makes are quite extraordinary.

My first attempts were a three-sided box and a twisted goblet from a sapele blank I had around the workshop, the box turned out quite well but the twisted goblet went disastrously wrong. Unnoticed the small drive centre I used tore out of the wood moved from its position and the work twisted on its axis, out of alignment. (See photo at right).

As I was still developing my skills, I made a wide range of other work, but I have now returned to some multi axis work.



I purchased a new 3/8" live centre (left) which holds more securely than just using a 60° cone live centre.

The wood is turned to round and the axis points are transferred to each end of the blank. 4 axis points are marked on the mandrel I made up to the size of a tea light holder for turning tea lights. The axis is turned on 1 to 1 and 2 to 2.

3 axes work is turned 1 to 1, 2 to 2 and 3 to 3 for a 3 sided box and 1 to 2, 2 to 3 and 3 to 1 to achieve the twist. (See photo below.)



With this project, after I turned to round between centres, I turned a tenon on one end and mounted it in my chuck. A 40mm hole was drilled in the other end with a **forstner** bit as this is size of a tea light holder. I used one turn of masking tape to ensure the mandrel was a tight fit and wouldn't slip. The wood was marked appropriately as a safeguard. The work was then mounted between small drive centres using position 1 and 1 ready to start turning.

As my old Record Power CL1 lathe is on the light side, I found turning at anything over 750rpm is out of the question as the out of balance vibration



shaking is impossible to work with. I would think a larger heavy duty lathe would be far more suitable for this work.

At this point it seemed a good idea to actually mark with pencil the outline of the cuts I intend to make, which are basically coves and beads.



It is also a good idea to stop the lathe every so often to see where your cuts are and as you're turning a lot of air watch the shadow outline as you make your cuts. From a personal view I found my half inch spindle gouge and an Easywood tip on my homemade shaft the tools best suited to this work.



When I was happy with the shape I reset the work on to axis 2 to 2 to continue shaping the piece.

Finishing presents a problem as if you sand on the lathe you will sand off the crisp edge. Power sanding with the lathe stationary is an option but as I can't lock the headstock on my lathe I opted to hand sand both on and off the lathe.

After applying sanding sealer Yorkshire Grit was rubbed on by hand and I was surprised how well it worked. I finished buffing and polishing the piece on my homemade 3 mop buffing system before fitting the tealight holder and tealight.



Xmas Trees – Keith Goddard

Making Christmas trees is an interesting project.

I have made trees from an Acacia tree that was felled last year, and they have all been snapped up. It doesn't matter how long you have been turning there are always new things to learn and develop to get into production mode.

Previous trees had been made from timber from a tree trunk, but the most beautiful trees are made from a branch of about the diameter of the base of the tree to be made, especially where the heart wood has a colour different from the outer growth rings.

The trees internal growth rings produce amazingly beautiful patterns. I made two trees from lime, but they seem very plain in comparison. Laburnum and acacia are nice woods to use as shown by the two in the photograph below.



Woods A-Z

Continuing the series on woods used in Woodturning – we are now at M – in this case for Maple

Maple

There are many different types of maple – the most commonly used and seen in the UK are Hard Maple and Birdseye maple (bottom left image below) Called birdseye because the tiny knots in the grain resemble small bird's eyes. The figure is reportedly caused by unfavorable growing conditions for the tree. The tree attempts to start numerous new buds to get more sunlight, but with poor growing conditions the new shoots are aborted, and afterward a number of tiny knots remain.

Hard maple is fine textured strong, heavy, hard and straight-grained. The heartwood is light reddish-brown with deeper-coloured late-wood bands. The sapwood is white in colour. It differs mainly from the soft maples in its greater density and firmer texture.

All types dry without undue difficulty but rather slowly,

Hard maple is rather difficult to work, the timber tending to cause saws to vibrate, and for cutters to ride on the wood during planing or turning. The timber can be stained, polished and glued satisfactorily, but it is hard to nail or screw, although these are held firmly.

Not listed in CITES.



-----oooOOOooo-----

PS Identify trees with a FREE Tree ID app - Whilst researching the net for info on woods, I came across this free Tree ID app for Android and iPhone. It's an A-Z tree guide in your pocket from the Woodland Trust.

[Download the app](#)

For Sale

Various Tools

We were approached by a non-member who needs to dispose of a number of tools. No costs were given and if you see anything you are interested in, please phone or email him directly. The items are in storage in Guildford

His name is Brian Crosby – phone 07894 412326 and email brc.695@btinternet.com

2 adjustable roller/ ball bearing stands

1 Metabo KGSE1670 cross cut bench mounted mitre saw with dust extractor

1 Metabo OFE1812 1/4"/1/2" router

1x PowerPlus X093 router

1x Stanley H260A 1/4" router

Around 48 x 1/4" and 30 x 1/2" router bits - maybe more

1 Fox F46251 bench mounted Lathe

1 set of tools for above lathe

1 Delta 11-900 T2 Bench mounted 203.2 Pedestal drill

1x110v Wolf sapphire 6089 9" circular saw

Photos are available if these are of any help.

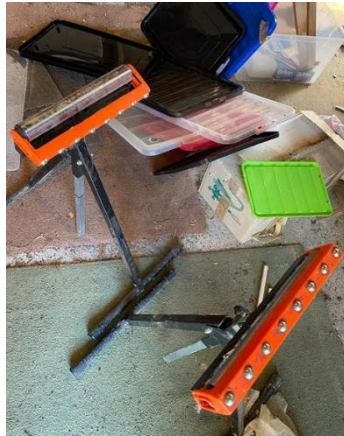
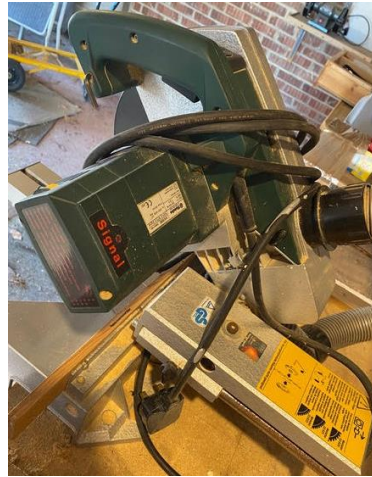
I guess that the lathe in particular may be of interest to someone in your group.

If any of your aspiring carpenters and joiners are interested I would very happy to arrange for them to view these tools and discuss prices. Whilst I have some ideas in what they are worth I guess they are only worth what someone is willing to pay for them so I am willing to negotiate in order for them to go to someone who really wants them and will put them to good use.

Brian Crosby

Photos below and on next page





Poetry Corner

END OF THE SECOND ELIZABETHAN ERA

There in spirit, cos we couldn't go
To the palace railings with the peoples flow
Most loved Brit since Winnie passed
Her honour, sacrifice and duty held fast
She kept her vow through all her life
Assuring our passage through this epoch's strife
Now she has left, the world is weeping
But such good memories in everyone's keeping
Floral bouquets, so profuse
Express our loss without excuse
Witnessed by all, matchless example set
May we all follow in her footsteps yet
Her constancy is to be admired
Brought us hope, let's say inspired
Her rays of humour so often seen
The lengthiest love's display
There has ever been
R.I.P.
and thank you, Elizabeth II

martin sexton
9th September 2022