

WOODBITS NEWSLETTER Issue 200 January 2023 Welcome

SHAVINGS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hello

First of all very many thanks to Gary Rance who got the first meeting of 2023 off to a cracking start showing us how to make a Rosewood lidded box with Corian inlay and finial lid. After the break Gary followed up with something completely different in the form of a spinning top. We had an excellent attendance of 51 Members and 5 Visitors making a grand total of 56 in the room; the best turnout for a long time!

AGM CHANGES TO THE COMMITTEE, VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

It may seem a bit premature to talk about the April AGM, but there will be several key committee resignations. So it is vitally important that we start planning now to recruit replacements so that our club continues to run efficiently and fulfil its objectives. Please do talk to either myself or any member of the committee if you can offer assistance to fill the following posts.

New Demonstrator Organiser

Grahame Tomkins is resigning from being Demonstration Organiser. Our grateful thanks to Grahame who has served on the Committee for 15 years and who leaves us after setting up a full calendar of demonstrators for the rest of this year (2023) and part of the following year. So we are looking to find a successor to take over the management of this year's programme and to find and book demonstrators for 2024. Anyone interested please talk to Grahame and any member of the committee who will gladly explain what is involved.

New Chairman

I will be resigning at the AGM. Adam Blackie has offered to become chairman on condition that we can find someone to take over the membership management part of the Treasurer's role (Adam is happy to continue as Treasurer and carry on managing the Equipment Lending Library). This would be an excellent solution and it has been suggested to facilitate this that the role of secretary be expanded to take on membership management. This neatly brings us to...

New secretary

Following on from the above, Allen Kaye is relinquishing the post of secretary to concentrate on production of the newsletter and other club duties. Broadly the main duties of this post involves corresponding with

outside organisations, and taking minutes at the committee meetings (4-5 a year and at the AGM). The committee meetings are by Zoom and are recorded on video which greatly facilitates recording the minutes. The other suggested new duty (devolved from that of Treasurer), involves membership management. One possibility might be to split the role into two posts; one to be Club Secretary and the other Membership Secretary. Do please talk to Allen and or Adam if interested in helping with these tasks.

Welcome to a New Sales Table Manager

Derek Stephens has very ably managed the sales table team for many years and recently has been greatly assisted by Bob Wissgott. Derek is stepping down at the AGM and is mentoring Bob who has volunteered to take over and will also be serving on the committee pending election at the AGM.

TRAINING INITIATIVES

Finally, please support our new training Officer Phil Scoltock who has been working very hard to set up some excellent training initiatives which I think are a core function of our club. Please do look out for the display boards and sign-up sheets detailing these initiatives at each meeting. There are some fantastic opportunities here both for newbies and also our more experienced members. That's all from me but as always do feel free to have a chat either during a club meeting, by phone or by e-mail.

Tim

Chairman: Tim Pettigrew <u>chairman@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk</u> Treasurer: Adam Blackie <u>treasurer@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk</u> Secretary and Newsletter Editor: Allen Kaye <u>secretary@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk</u>

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Club News

December Competition

There are still some entries from the December competition that have not been matched with the member who submitted them. I do know the following and have passed this info to Peter Hoare who manages the spreadsheet of entries and points. If any are wrong or you can fill in the blanks please let me know.

Beginners – Xmas Tree Unknown 2nd, 1st Snowman Unknown

Advanced – Parlour Top Phil Scoltock 1st, Rattle 2nd= Tim Pettigrew. Puzzle 2nd= unknown.

Open – Square Plate 1st Phil Scoltock, Monkey Puzzle 2nd= Tony Buttle, Bowl and Finial 2nd= Mark Aizicowitz, Open Structure 3rd Don Guy

January Competition

Beginners



Advanced



1st Peter Hoare



2nd Tony Taylor

Open



1st Phil Scoltock



2nd Tony Taylor

3rd Peter Hoare



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Meetings Calendar 2023

2023

Feb.	Stephen Madden
Mar.	Richard Findley
Apr.	AGM
May.	Chris Parker
June.	Club night
July.	Darren Breeze
Aug.	Martin Saban Smith
Sept.	Club night
Oct.	Stewart Furini
Nov.	Phil Scoltock
Dec.	Club night

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

Pen Kits

At the last meeting, the committee discussed the idea of bulk purchasing some items in order to gain discount and then selling the items individually at the reduced price through the club. The first items we considered were pen kits. There are already a few of us that are interested in getting a good price for these. It would help us if we could connect with other members who might be interested and then had conversation about what type of pen kit might be best. The default I guess will be 7mm basic ones, but it would be good to talk about this before we commit.

If you have an interest in this scheme please contact me or Richard Burton

Thanks

Allen

Raffle

I am always looking for the usual helpers and newbies to help buy the prizes 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 2023

Month	Beginners	Advanced
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

Competition Points – did you know?

For the benefit of new members as well as a reminder to existing members I thought it useful to restate the way that points are allocated to entries.

 $1^{st} = 10 \text{ points}$ $2^{nd} = 9 \text{ points}$ $3^{rd} = 8 \text{ points}$ All remaining entries not in the first three are allocated 6 points.

At the end of the year the points are totalled by Peter Hoare who maintains the spreadsheet and overall prizes are awarded at the AGM. Most importantly you can see that **all** entries accumulate points – not just 1^{st} , 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} .

Allen

Demonstration by Gary Rance – Review by Tony Taylor

Gary got started with his customary quick and deft demonstration of the basic spindle turning cuts. He makes them look so simple with his many years of experience.



The main item was to make a small box with a lid with a Corian 'onlay'. The onlay technique gives the final effect of an inlay without the usual difficulty of cutting and fitting the inlay precisely. A piece of Rosewood 2 x 2 x 3 inches was mounted end grain and turned round and a chucking tenon formed at one end. With the piece chuck mounted a parting cut was made at the mid-point about 8 mm deep to define the lid. This lid portion was then turned down to exactly fit the 25 mm diameter hole in a square of Corian. This narrowed section extended down to about 10 mm above the bottom of the lid and had to be perfectly square to match the Corian, which was then glued in place. Using a spindle gouge the lid was then shaped to leave a thin ring of Corian and a neat finial knob.

The lid was then sanded and finished with friction polish and carnauba wax then parted off with a thin parting tool, leaving a witness mark. The underside of the lid could then be hand-sanded and finished.

The next stage was to hollow the box using a spindle gouge followed by a box scraper to form a straight flatbottomed interior. A narrow fillet had to be left for the lid to sit on. The inside was left with a matt finish from wire wool. The outside shape was then formed, sanded and finished. The box was then parted off and a jam chuck formed on the residual piece. This enabled the bottom to be turned with a slight concavity and finished with a couple of decorative rings.



An extra demonstration then followed of making a spinning top from a disc of Corian and an Ebony handle. A Corian square with a small hole in the centre was mounted between centres and turned with a rounded top and an ogee bottom. An Ebony piece was turned with one end to fit in the central hole in the Corian and glued in place. The spinning point was formed from a short piece of nylon knitting needle. The top certainly worked beautifully.

The final item was a miniature tree decoration and this concluded an impressive demonstration of classic woodturning



Training Opportunity with Gary Rance

Berkshire Woodturners contacted us recently regarding some places available on a thread chasing course being run for them by Gary. See details below. Contact John French directly (and quickly) if you are interested, Allen

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Berkshire woodturners have asked Gary Rance to run a couple of training courses at his workshop in Wendover. This is something which is hoped will become a regular annual event on different topics.

Due to drop outs there are currently 2 vacancies on the second of these courses: planned for Friday 17th February.

The topic is hand thread chasing boxes. The cost will be at a discounted rate of £75 per person. But the course can only be run if all 4 places are filled by the 4th February

Wood, thread chasers and tea / coffee provided - bring your own lunch and basic tools. Start time is planned for 09:00. A great way to spend a day getting some fantastic hints and tips from one of the Uk's top master turners

Please contact John French (BWA Treasurer) if you would like to go or want any further information. First come first served!

jfrenchgc@gmail.com 07977 980337

Gary's address: 7 Boddington Road, Wendover, Bucks HP22 6HZ

Projects – Lidded Pots/Boxes

Three lidded projects featured this month were prompted by the talk by Gary Rance.

Melanie Williams

There is a little lidded pot I made using the inlay technique that Gary demonstrated at the club meeting.

The wood is Japanese pagoda (sourced locally to me) and I used acrylic for the inlay.





Harvey Alison

Some times it is a finished piece, other times it is a prototype and skill builder.

Here is my first attempt at the 'onlay' box Gary showed us last month, made with Tony this morning.

The onlay itself worked very well, but unfortunately a couple of cracks in the cherry wood spoil the overall look. Next time I think I will try to make the lid curve flow better into the body.

Anthony Taylor

Here is my second version of the Gary Rance lidded pot.

It is 7 cm diameter and made from a lovely piece of Rosewood.



Update - Club Training Sessions 2023

Some exciting progress has been made arranging training for club members – there are now some great opportunities which we hope you will sign-up for

In-House Training

One exciting development is we have now been able to confirm dates for the internal training sessions provided by the club. The sessions available will be held on:

Date	Day	Venue
19/03/2023	Sunday	Adeyfield
14/05/2023	Sunday	Adeyfield
15/07/2023	Saturday	Adeyfield
17/09/2023	Sunday	Adeyfield
19/11/2023	Sunday	Adeyfield

The sign-up sheet for these sessions is available at the club nights, and we have a number of people who have already indicated their interest. We have recently seriously widened the range of topics that can be provided and topics on the day will depend on what the attendees have asked for (plus tutor and specialist tool availability).

These sessions are also substantially subsidised by the club – resulting in the fee payable by attendees of ± 25 /person – which is great value for a days training from an experienced and talented turner.

Based on people who have already expressed an interest, places on the March 19th session will now start to be paired up with a tutor based upon what they have asked for and topics the available tutors can teach. Lathes, tools, wood and PPE will be provided, but attendees are encouraged to bring their own if they prefer (and a packed lunch).

Example topics include:

Woodturning	Sharpening	Pen Making	Small craft-	Goblets	Lidded	Making
Basics			fair items		Boxes	xmas items
Mortar &	Large	Power Carving	Rotary	Pyrography	Paint &	Thin-wall
Pestle	Platters		Spiralling		Stain	turning
Hollowing	Using Bowl	Gilding/Metal-	Tool	Wood	Propeller	Nat.Edge
	Saver	Leaf	Theory	Preparation	Turning	Bowl

Most topics are 1 Attendee : 1 Lathe : 1 Tutor. Some subjects can be productively done 2:1.

Training Sessions by Professional Turners (aka Masterclass)

The second exciting development is: some of the RPTs (Registered Professional Turners) who are booked to do a demo on a Club Tuesday evening, have been asked to provide a one-day training session in Hemel Hempstead whilst they are here. This training will take the form of hands on "Be Shown -> then do" training. The RPT will make one of their signature pieces explaining and teaching their techniques. Then club members participating will give it a try.

The sessions are all day (and obviously on the day of the demo or the following day). The sessions will be held in Hemel Hempstead at one of our member's workshop. 5 places are available at each session (because there are 5 lathes) – for convenience, to distinguish this from the training where members are the tutors – these RPT sessions are called Masterclasses, but the most of the sessions are open to confident-new-turners, improvers, advanced and master-turners alike.

RPT	Date of evening demo to club	Masterclass date	Masterclass Topic	<u>Minimum Level /</u> <u>Prerequisites</u>
Chris Parker	9th May	9 th May	Rotary Spiralled/Textured Bowl Power carved & dry brush painted platter	Open to all
Darren Breeze	11th July	12 th July	To Be Confirmed	Intermediate or have done in- house propeller turning training session
Stewart Furini	10th Oct	11 th Oct	Airbrushing	Open to all

The H&BW club is substantially subsidising all of the above sessions and therefore the cost per attendee for this full day of group training with an RPT is the incredibly low price of £35/person. The session on 9th May is open to be booked now, please email <u>mailto:training@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk</u> to book your place (as we have to commit to the RPT, payment will be needed as soon as your place is confirmed – places will be assigned on a first-come-first server basis – when it is full, its full.

Attendees will need to bring their own gouges, visor, dust mask, stout-footwear and a packed-lunch. Turning blanks and all specialist tools (e.g. rotary texturing tool, dremel, air brush etc) will be provided.

Attendees will help clean up at the end of the day and they get to keep whatever exquisite masterpieces they have made during the day (probably have to take it home to finish it).

Places for Darren and Stewarts sessions will be open up in future Newsletters/email-shots.

Chris Parker Masterclass

Chris is a master of texture and colour, but he's also great at "proper" woodturning technique and really good at teaching it. And as can be seen from his pieces, he has a great artist eye and interestingly often achieves great results without using expensive signature branded finishes.

Chris makes achieving results similar to his really achievable.





Texturing done using Sorby Rotary Texturing and Spiralling Tool

Power Carved and "dry-brush" painted

All day group training session with Chris is May 9th in Hemel Hempstead at a cost of £35/person. To book

mailto:training@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk

In the morning, Chris and the attendees will explore all of the possibilities of rotary texturing tools (rotary tools provided).

In the afternoon we will do some power-carving and painting techniques either on a wide rimmed bowl or square platter (power carving equipment and paints etc provided)

Occasionally, for one of the more advanced masterclasses – completion of the appropriate in-house session may be required.

Phil Scoltock

TOOL LENDING LIBRARY

Lending rules are at the end of this document

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 highspeed 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.

Jan 23 Update - This item is currently on Loan to Harvey Alison

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. Perhaps the most simple to use sharpener on the market, this system replicates the industry standard of achieving a flat grind using the preferred method of belts over traditional grinding wheels.

Sharpens bench, framing, carving and turning chisels, drill bits, plane irons, knives and garden tools.

Details can be seen here - <u>https://www.robert-</u> sorby.co.uk/sharpening/proedge/wped01a-proedge-system

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

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 twentyseven 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

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.

Details can be seen here -



https://www.toolsandtimber.co.uk/hamlet-big-brother-system-2

CAPTIVE RING CUTTER

It is 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.

Details can be seen here https://www.axminstertools.com/crown-cryo-captive-ringtool-3-8-506467



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.

The options include ¾", 1" and 25mm toolpost holders and MT2 and MT1 tailstock adaptors. So it should fit most lathes.



Details can be seen here https://www.axminstertools.com/woodcutbowlsaver-bowl-coring-system-951128

TYME CUB Benchtop lathe

Thanks to club member Keith Goddard for his offer to add a small lathe WITH a starter set of tools to our Tool Library. He has a Tyme Cub lathe 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.



More details on the Tyme range of lathes can be seen here. http://www.lathes.co.uk/tyme/

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

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.

More details can be seen here.

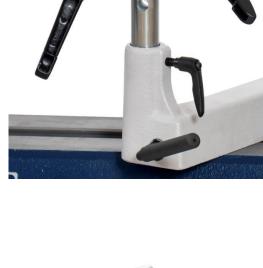
https://hopewoodturning.co.uk/lathe-accessoires/jigs/hopecarving-jig/172/hope-carving-jig-with-m33x3.5-chuckthread?c=47

Jan 23 Update - This item is currently on Loan to Don Guy

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. <u>https://www.ockenden-timber.co.uk/tools-accessories-pyrography-c-</u> 107 545/peter-child-artists-pyrography-machine-p-2152





Charnwood Pen Turning Kit, 2 Morse Taper

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

- PM2MT Colleted Type Mandrel
- 5 x 7mm Bushes
- PENBT Pen Barrel Trimming Tool
- PENTI Pen Barrel Insertion Tool suitable for 6mm 15mm diameter Tubes
- PBD7 7mm x 95mm long HSS drill bit

The collet type mandrel is quick to adjust and offers a strong action.

The collet that secures the mounting shaft ensures that the shaft is locked and centred in position to guarantee a perfectly centred pen.

The shaft slides inside the collet so that it can be lengthened or shortened to adapt to the length of the pen to be made.

The kit consists of 7mm HSS drill bit, pen tube insertion tool, barrel trimming tool, collet type pen mandrel, bushing set for 7mm pens.

AND here is a very useful guide for making pens - everything you'll need to know if you are new to pen making - <u>https://youtu.be/E-bzXki7Lf4</u>



Details about our kit are here. <u>https://charnwood.net/product/pen-turning-kit-2-morse-taper/</u>

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.

With the lathe running, simply drill into to the workpiece through the tailstock and Hollow rotating centre in small steps until you get about halfway. Then remove the workpiece and change the pointed tip on the drive centre to the counterbore piece, and insert the drilled hole in the workpiece over the counterbore.

Use the centring rod through the tailstock to



centre the workpiece on the undrilled end while tightening up the tailstock. Then continue to drill through the remainder of the workpiece. More Details can be seen here. <u>https://charnwood.net/product/planet-long-hole-boring-kit-deluxe-mt2/</u>

Paul Howard Sphere Jig

Designed by Paul Howard and now available from Hopewoodturning.

This jig fits onto lathes with a centre height of between 125mm (10" swing) to 280mm (22" swing) For lathes with a centre height of 300mm (24" swing), a riser block has been purchased separately.

Developed by Paul over the years into the solid, accurate, and easy-to-use jig. The standard jig fits onto most flatbed bars. We also have the adaptor for round bar lathe beds.



Please see the videos available to show the setup and use of this jig. There are three videos and they can be seen here. Please watch all three. - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9p3iVSOhiE0</u>

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, 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

Chestnut Newsletters

For new members I thought I would mention the support offered by Chestnut through their newsletters. They are produced by Terry Smart who visits and demonstrates at the club each year. Link below takes you straight to the free archive and if you wish you can subscribe and receive each month's newsletter direct. Welcome to our Newsletters – Chestnut Products – First for Finishes

Chestnut also produce a compatibility chart and although it appears specific to their products the general guidance is useful with other products. I have copied this again with their permission here but if you want an A2 sized version then you can buy one from their website.

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×	Y	Υ	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Υ	Υ	Y	Y	А			Y	Υ	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Woodtumers Stick Wax	
Y	Y	Υ	Y	Y	Υ	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	А			Y	Υ	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Camauba Wax Stick	
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Х	Y	Y	Y	Υ	Y	Y	Y	Y	Х			Y	Υ	Y	А	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Microcrystalline Wax Stick	
		Y																									Spirit Stain	
		Y		Y		Y		Y					Y							Y							Liquid Wax	
				Y																							Pine Stain	
		Y		Y		Y						1	Y					Y	Y	Y			Y	Y			Gilt Cream	
		Y	Y	Y				1			Y							Y		Y			Y	Y			Iridescent Paint	
	*	1			Y	Y	Y				-	Y					Y	Y		А		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Buffing Wheel Kit	

Woods A-Z

CITES

Continuing the series on woods used in Woodturning – now on R for Rosewood. It is worth mentioning here the CITES database of 'Endangered' or 'Banned' woods.

The list includes a number of exotic woods including Rosewood and Bubinga but does not mean you cannot use the wood that is already in your workshop. You may however choose to rethink any new purchases of this wood unless you are sure of where it came from.

For more details and to check other woods in your workshop check the link below:

The Wood Database | CITES

Rosewood





There are many different species of Rosewood. In the UK we often find Amazon or Honduras Rosewood. It can be deep, ruddy brown to purplish-brown colour, richly streaked and grained with black resinous layers. Two examples above

The wood is always very dense and can be difficult to work with but finishes beautifully (Note – see Tony Taylor Pot on Page 11 of this newsletter)

It takes a fine polish but has a resinous nature.

The heartwood can be sizable, but squared logs or planks are never seen because before the tree arrives at maturity, the heartwood begins to decay, making it faulty and hollow at the centre.

Once much in demand by cabinetmakers and piano makers, the wood is still used to fashion xylophone bars, but waning supplies restrict its use. Rosewood earlier was exported in quantity from Brazil, Jamaica, and Honduras. It is listed as endangered on the CITES index

Poetry Corner

New Year Celebrations over the years

Punctuate each year our hopes and fears Fun with friends is the name of the game Seeking diversions which are not the same As last year, walks in the forest, or on the beach, popped corks at the table and sing songs remembered, Auld Lang Syne, we are still in good voice Just a five minute wonder sung from choice Fireworks lifting the gaze and emotions What do they cost? Could be otherwise spent on planets healing potions Views from space showing modern trends World inequalities for the haves and have nots highlighted by Satellite intensified views which miss no events Half of the world in high rise the other in tents Aggressive ambition of some men clearly shown To feed their own population alone By increasing the perpetrators people zone Extremes of nature in cold, light, heat and rain, Throw in the odd sunami and forest fire again Human's and nature's behaviour highlighted Affected by natural disasters which make them blighted Where will it all end? It is just so obvious, to survive, we all must bend.

martin sexton 3rd January 2023