



## Programme

### Future Events

#### MSWA Meetings

November 6<sup>th</sup>  
Andrew Hall  
Hatmaker – back by popular  
request

December 4<sup>th</sup>  
Mick Hanbury  
Decorative Bowl Techniques  
ebonising, and much more

#### Future Events

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust  
Christmas Fair  
November 21<sup>st</sup>/ 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### Club Competitions

November  
Challenge  
Firework Theme

December  
Novice  
Christmas Tree

## Chairman's Notes

Your committee tries to put together a programme that attracts members with a wide variety of levels of ability. By and large, I think that we manage that and Ted Gill, our Events Secretary, has to take most of the credit for that.

We have to do that within the constraints of budgets, which in themselves are constrained by what we think we can extract from your pockets without provoking an outright mutiny.

Hands on Evenings represented a good way of achieving this. This month we had four lathes in operation providing what were in effect four mini-demonstrations. Ted Gill on the club lathe enlarging on the subject of his previous demonstration, Dawn Hopley showing how to turn a stylised Christmas Tree (a broad hint here because we will need stocks of these for the club stand at the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Christmas Fair), Paul Bellamy providing copious advice on tool techniques and David Winter quietly showing how to turn exquisite small light pulls.

And yet, attendance was extremely small. We have asked for feedback in the past on what members want from the club. We are at present formulating the programme for next year. So this is your last chance to tell us what you want to see, or want not to see, in that programme. Let us hear from you, and we will take your views into consideration.

Philip Watts



# Wood 'n' things



## **Editor's Scribblings**

This Newsletter is being compiled in the space between a walking holiday in Dorset, no woodturners to be seen anywhere since they prefer to work in Purbeck Stone, and a visit to friends in Belgium where apparently the professional woodturners prefer to keep their trade secrets to themselves rather than promulgating them to members of woodturning clubs. With no formal demonstration to report, I am short of copy (and inspiration) this month (there is yet another hint for you) so I have chosen to digress from woodturning on Page4. I hope that you will find it an interesting diversion.

Why come to club meetings, and particularly Hands-on Evenings? We hope that you find it interesting, inspiring, and a social occasion with the opportunity to meet people with a similar interest. I believe that if you take that element away then much of the point is lost and you might as well take to viewing video clips on YouTube. Having said that, I have to confess to occasionally falling prey to the temptation of looking for a piece of information relevant to whatever problem I am trying to solve, and then being diverted to whatever additional items the YouTube site offers for my delectation and delight. And sometimes the offerings are very weird indeed.

The quality of the offerings vary tremendously. Some are indeed equal to the demonstrations that we lay on each month. Some are examples of how not to do it, at the risk of life and limb!

Philip Watts

## **Staffordshire Wild Life Trust Christmas**

The MSWA intends to have its usual stand at this event on November 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>. Sales are often well attended. We need items to sell on the stand such as light pulls, mushrooms, miniature Christmas trees, Christmas tree ornaments.

There is also the opportunities to sell those turned items littering your workshop on the usual terms, 10% to the Wild Life trust, and 10% to the MSWA funds.

## **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



## Don't Ink Me In!

A couple of recent missed appointments started me musing on how certain so many people seem to be about what they will be doing a week or even a month ahead. My calendar tends to be written in pencil, and although there are many 'definite' events inked in, and highlighted to ensure I don't miss them, far too many of these have to be covered with bits of sticky label and re-entered elsewhere.

Very few of these changes arise from human error, whether mine or someone else's: most of them can be put down to Life getting in the way when you're making other plans. For instance, at tea-time yesterday my grandson phoned to invite me to a coffee morning at his school. Both his parents would be at work, so I had to say yes, while desperately trying to remember the time of my hair appointment (already re-scheduled because I forgot last week...). Luckily I just have time to fit both in.

Being relatively new to wood-turning, I'm never sure whether a project will be successful, or how long it will take if it is, so I'm wary of making promises. Birthday presents can be planned for, *if* I remember in time and can find a suitable blank, but the '*could you make me a...*' requests tend to be sprung on me and throw any planned programme out of the window.

Throughout the summer it's all too easy to be tempted by a rare fine day to leave the workshop. Once I get stuck into the gardening I lose track of time. Then the weather in winter increasingly makes me have second thoughts about driving anywhere!

So if I say cheerfully at the end of a club meeting: 'see you next time!' well, I'll do my best, but don't hold me to it. However much I want to do it, it's only ever pencilled in...

Jane Russell





# Wood 'n' things



## Nothing to do with woodturning

Having a spare page and no copy to insert, and knowing that there are a number of closet canal enthusiasts within the membership, I thought that these “holiday snaps” from a recent trip to Belgium would have some appeal.

The Canal du Centre was first built to accommodate 75 ton barges, then rebuilt to accept 300 ton ones, and finally replaced by a canal able to take the standard 1350 tonne Europa barge. The old canal has been retained as an example of engineering heritage. The inclined plane at Ronquieres and the later vertical lift at Strepy are impressive examples of canal engineering. The earthworks and bridges linking the Strepy lift to the rest of the system are equally so, resembling an elevated motorway in scale.





# Wood 'n' things



## Club information

Your club committee for 2015 is:-

**Chairman - Philip Watts**

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

Tel. 0121 308 7838

**Secretary – Dawn Hopley**

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

**Treasurer – Vance Lupton**

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

**Assistant Treasurer – Hugh Field**

**Events Secretary – Ted Gill**

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

**Abrasives -**

**Newsletter editor – Philip Watts**

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

**Webmanager – Philip Watts**

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

**Committee Members**

**Health and Safety Advisor**

Hugh Field

Please only use phone numbers if absolutely necessary.

## Merchandise



### Abrasives

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



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

### MSWA DVD List

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

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



## Turning tips

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



## Useful websites and suppliers

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

Suppliers used by Margaret Garrard

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

Cutting Burrs 1.6 size for NSK  
Dental Sky  
Phone 0800 2944700

Artool Ultra Mask  
Graphic Air  
Phone 01423 522836

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

Compressor  
Machine Mart  
But do look around for other suppliers.

Micro Machine and Cutters  
Woodart Products  
John 07770226640

## Items for sale or wanted

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

## For Sale

### Custom Toolrests – David Fields

David's grandson is able to make tool-rests, similar to the Robert Sorby system, out of round steel bar. These can be tailored to suit your requirements i.e. tool-post stem and length of the actual tool-rest. At the moment he is only doing straight tool-rests but bowl rests may be feasible in the future.

And if you have a Record lathe and do small spindles, he has developed a cranked tool-post, allowing the tool-rest to get close to the work, without the banjo dropping off the front bed bar.

If you would like to see one, or want to discuss your requirements, please have a chat with David on 01283 229072

### Carnauba wax polishes – Paul Bellamy

Following the favourable reaction to the polishing kits Paul started earlier this year, he has established a supply of carnauba wax flakes. These can be used to make your own 'sticks' or mixed with other components to make a range of polishes. He is selling these in 250g bags but could do larger quantities if you need it. He also has some ready-made wax blocks, comprising 60% beeswax/ 40% carnauba. These are softer than most 'wood-turning sticks' but he prefers this as it doesn't score your work.

He also has more of his 'Buffing kits', similar to Chestnut's system. For more details, e-mail him at [paul.bellamy@mswa.co.uk](mailto:paul.bellamy@mswa.co.uk)