



*Mid-Staffs Woodturners  
Association*

*Affiliated Branch of*

**Association of  
Woodturners  
of Great Britain**



Volume 4  
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April  
2023

**Wood 'n' things**

*News Letter*

Chair  
*Mike Taylor*

Editor  
*Phil Williams*



*An excellent example  
of work from one of our members*

# Editors Workbench

Pleased to be able to bring to you this month's NewsLetter. It has been a while since one has been published. I hope you enjoy the edition. It shows that the club is very active and full of enthusiastic woodturners, as you will see from the number and quality of examples in this NewsLetter.

*Phil Williams*

## Meeting Calendar

### *May 2023*

#### **Fri 5<sup>th</sup> - Dawn Hopley**

There are many wonderful toys and games that can be made by a woodturner. Skittles, Spinning Tops, Solitaire Boards and Chess Pieces are all very common. In May, Dawn will attempt to make an unusual game that hails from a small valley in the Italian Alps. Tyrolean Roulette is a fun game that can be played by all ages and comes in all shapes and sizes. The key item is a spinning top with a simple firing action!.



## At Our Last Meeting

### ***A Vortex Bowl - Tony Jones***

*(March 2023)*

The club welcomed Tony in March where he demonstrated the turning of his signature Vortex Bowl

After a quick introduction about his past career and the reasons behind his love of turning the demonstration quickly started.

A brief overview of the chuck and mounting methods for the initial turning and then onto facing the blank





with a bowl gouge before doing the same with the side of the blank.

Tony was using sycamore for the demonstration owing to its ease of turning and the shavings soon started to fly.

A recess was cut into the base for an expanding chuck and the outside quickly shaped to a super smooth finish and an elegant flowing profile. Some quick sanding followed as the club dust extractor inconveniently refused to work. An excellent finish was achieved and polished using cellulose sanding sealer thinned down by 50% with cellulose thinners. A final polish was then given using wax polish.

Once the piece was reversed it was partially hollowed, the final wall thickness for the first third of the bowl was turned to completion whilst there was some meat retained in the bottom of the bowl. The rest of the hollowing was completed with a bowl gouge and finally finished with a large scraper before sanding and the same polishing method as the outside was used.



The final stage was the remounting of the bowl in Cole Jaws to turn away the recess as all turners like to have a "smooth bottom"



A great demo, interesting tales and a good laugh.

Thanks Tony.

*Mike Taylor*

# Competition Results

## Challenge Cup - A Decorated Item, Painted or Inlay

*(March 2023)*

This month, we had three entries competing for the Challenge Cup. Each of the entries shows our members have been hard at work to produce these fine examples.

**A**



**B**



**C**



# Showcase

Other items on display



# The Vortex Bowl

Tony adding the final touches to the Vortex Bowl.



## Forthcoming Competition

*May*

### **Challenge Cup – A Large Decorated Platter**

Our May Challenge Cup is a platter that is at least 8" in diameter We hope you have all enjoyed making this item and look forward to more in the coming twelve months.



### MSWA Contacts

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### Come & Join Us

We usually meet on the first Friday of every month between 7:00pm and 10:00pm. Visit our website [www.mswa.co.uk](http://www.mswa.co.uk) and click on the Meeting Calendar to confirm the dates.

### We Meet at:-

Etching Hill Village Hall  
East Butts Road  
Etching Hill  
Rugeley  
WS15 2LU



### Past Chairpersons

Ken Allen	1990-1997	Peter Worrall	1997-2005	John Smith	2005-2009
Dawn Hopley	2010-2012	John Smith	2012-2013	Philip Watts	2013-2016
Dawn Hopley	2017-2019				

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