



*Mid-Staffs Woodturners
Association*

Affiliated Branch of
**Association of
Woodturners**
of Great Britain

Volume 1
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June
2018

Wood 'n' things

News Letter

Chair
Dawn Hopley

Editor
Phil Williams



*A Toast Rack
This month's competition for the
Challenge Trophy.*

Chairmans Chatter

Sadly low attendance at this month with just 11 people through the door, but with a Bank Holiday Weekend and many folk already sending their apologies in advance, it was no real surprise. Many were either away on holiday, with family or even away at shows and other events. A shame really as they all missed an excellent evening.

Hugh Field had trawled the internet to find us some of the latest woodturning videos that are currently available. He began with two instructional videos from the USA. These were highly professional looking and well filmed. However, the instructions and tuition aimed at beginners were far from professional. We were treated to step by step instructions for how to use a skew and spindle gouge on simple beads and coves. Sadly the instructions were far from correct and far from safe for beginners. Proof that not all that is freely available on YouTube is a good as it may first appear. A cautionary tale for anyone trying to teach themselves woodturning. There is no real substitute for real hands on lessons from a qualified and recommended tutor!



Hugh then went on to show us how to turn a wooden teddy bear, how to turn aluminium finials and how to make some amazing bowls using Christmas Tinsel and Epoxy Resin. One video also showed us how to use Milliput Resin to create various effects on a lidded bowl. Certainly lots of ideas and new materials for us all to go away and play with.



We were also treated to a wonderful video by the renowned Bodger Robin Wood. He showed us how to produce a set of nested bowls, from one single blank, on a pole lathe and all by hand! Very impressive skills indeed and one video well worth watching for all bowl turners. No need to fork out for one of those pricey bowl saver jigs here!

Dawn Hopley

Meeting Calendar

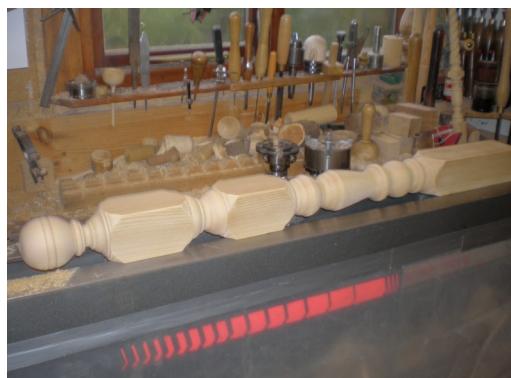
July

Fri 6th - Demonstration by Steve Heeley - The Big Candle Stick - Part 2

Steve will be demonstrating the second half of this two part turning demonstration of a big candle stick.



In the words of Steve Heeley:- "Probably the greatest joy of Wood Turning is seeing the beauty that Nature has created being released as I work. I travel many miles and go to incredible lengths to obtain "Interesting" pieces of timber that I know can be turned into Natural Works of Art".



August

Fri 3rd - Demonstration by Dawn Hopley - Casting & Turning Resin Blanks

There are very many videos on YouTube these days demonstrating casting and turning various items in resin. Dawn decided to do a little research and give it a go, but soon discovered that there is more to this than meets the eye. She will be presenting some of her research, advice and results and hopefully inspire you all to try something new.



Forth Coming Competitions

July

Challenge Trophy - An Owl

Our Challenge Trophy competition for July is an Owl. Below are examples to give you inspiration for your entry.

Best of luck and we look forward to seeing the results of your work.



August

Novice Trophy - A Candlestick or Tea light Holder

Our Novice Trophy competition for August follows on from our demonstration by Steve Heeley, albeit a smaller version will be just fine. As well as Steve's example, here are a few from the internet for your inspiration.

Good luck.



Miscellaneous Section

Lidded Box

This is the lidded box that Ron Dixon had on display at the meeting in May. It was made at Stafford Woodturning club by David Winter who was the demonstrator at their April meeting. Ron was asked if he would kindly finish it off and make a finial for the top.

As you can see, Ron has a good eye for shape and detail.



Dawn Hopley

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MSWA Contacts

Chairperson - Dawn Hopley
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Treasurer - Phil Williams
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Tel: 07753 416955

Membership - Vance Lupton

Come & Join Us

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

We Meet At:-

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

How to Join

MSWA encourage new members to develop their skills of wood turning. To obtain a Membership Application Form, visit our website and click on the Contact Us in the menu bar and download an application form.

Advertisement



Mike Taylor likes working with Alder Wood. If you would like to try this hardwood or have tuition on Pole Lathe Turning then contact Mike on 07871 994959 and mention MSWA.

Past Chairpersons

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

Mid Staffs Woodturners Association meets on the first Friday of every month between 7:00pm and 10:00 pm