

Coombe Abbey Woodturners NEWSLETTER

November



2026

This Month's Sponsor



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HEALTH & SAFETY NOTICE

Woodturning can be dangerous! Always follow the manufacturers' instructions and safety advice when operating power tools. Never try the techniques shown at our demonstrations or in our Newsletter if you are unsure or the procedure does not feel safe. Always use the guarding and other safety equipment.

The Club takes reasonable care to operate and instruct in a safe manner and strongly recommends all members to follow the Club's Health and Safety rules and the guidance notes that the AWGB issue in their Revolutions magazine from time to time.

Committee Members and Contacts

Chairman, Treasurer & Membership Secretary	Lee Cartwright
Vice Chairman	Giles Headley
Secretary & Library Custodian	Peter Orange
Events Secretary	Patrick Byrne
Newsletter & Web Site Editor	Rob Sheehan
Training Coordinator	Michael Archer
	Graham Ball
	Rod Young
	Phil Steele
	Graham Hudspith
	Gillian Henley-Clover

Website: <https://www.coombeabbeywoodturners.org>

**Copy Deadline for the December 2026 issue of the Newsletter is:-
Monday 23rd November 2026**

**Please forward your News, Stories and Photographs to:-
Robert Sheehan- Newsletter Editor -
M: 07905 185122. E-mail: robsheehan@virginmedia.com**

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In This Issue

Editor's Jottings	3
Chairman's Jottings	4
One Line Philosopher	5
This month's Sponsor	6
Ian Ethel	8
AWGB Seminar	32
Joke	42
Items For Sale	43
Notices	44
Christmas competitions	44
Activities of Other Clubs	45
Coombe branded items	46
Calendar of Events	48

Advertisers

Turners Retreat	7
Charnwood	9
Crown Hand Tools	11
Henry Taylor	13
Motor Control Warehouse	15
Chestnut Products	17
Hamlet	19
Yandles	21
Record Power	23
CSM Abrasives Plus	25
Proops Brothers	27
TMS Volvo	29

From the Editor



Our demonstrator this month was Ian Ethel RPT. You can see his offset turning on page 8.

I was at the AWGB Seminar. Giles & my pictures start on page 32.

Our next demo is on Saturday 14th November when our demonstrator will be Robert Till RPT. The demo starts at 10 am, at Walsgrave Baptist Church.

It is coming up to Christmas Party time. For £10, you get a buffet, competitions, quiz and raffle. Please let Lee know if you are coming, so that we can plan the numbers.

Christmas Competition details are on page 44.

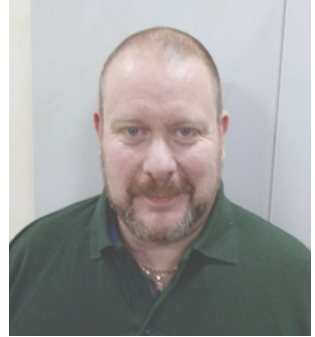
Paddy has booked some demo dates for next year. The list will be updated as more events come in. See the new calendar on the back page.

Regards

Rob

Chairman's Jottings

Hi everyone hope you are all well. I am now working on making a recovery from knee surgery. Thank you to all those members that have reached out with best wishes it means a lot.



I have been over to the workshop a few times over the last couple of weeks and it has been nice to see members busy working on the lathes and those that just like to have a chat and a coffee, me included at the moment.

I have returned to most club duties now so may see more of you at the last club Demo for this year in November. For upcoming Demos and events please look at dates further on in the newsletter.

Our last Demo was by Ian Ethel and was supported by around 14 club members it was a good demonstration of, off centre turning.

Please come and support the club and help with the events that are planned for the rest of this year and for 2027. I look forward to seeing you at Coombe and the planned events.

I hope you will come and support the club and enjoy this year's Christmas party on the 12th December at Walsgrave Baptist church. Details of competition pieces for the Christmas party this year have been shared already so I hope you have all been busy turning ready to enter your finished pieces.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the next Demo and Christmas party. Please contact me to put your name down for the Christmas party so we can finalise numbers by the 28th November.

Memberships will be Due for renewal in January after the AGM meeting. Further details to follow shortly.

We are going to be sending out a questioner to all members to seek some feed back to help us with keeping the club moving forward and active and interesting for all members. I would ask that you all please complete and return to myself or another committee member when this is sent out. This is currently being worked on so please bear with us.

I hope you all continue to enjoy your turning.
That's all from me for now. I hope to see you all soon.
Stay safe, keep turning
Remember YOUR Club needs you and your support.

Kind Regards

Lee

One Line Philosopher:

“We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars.”
Oscar Wilde, 1892

This Month's Newsletter Sponsor Turners Retreat

I am very pleased to welcome Turners Retreat once again as a sponsor of this monthly Newsletter. I can testify to the wide range of quality tools, machinery, accessories, project kits and timber that is available. They also run courses if you are short of Christmas present ideas!

Editor

Turners Retreat (A Company Profile)

At Turners Retreat, we proudly support woodturners and craftspeople. We provide a diverse product range, along with reliable advice and excellent service, to build long-lasting relationships with our customers.

In our warehouse based in Sheffield, South Yorkshire, we stock a wide variety of state-of-the-art lathes and machinery manufactured by well-known brand names, such as NOVA and Record Power. We also have an extensive range of tools made by wood working manufacturing specialists, Robert Sorby, available to buy on our website or over the phone.

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Not forgetting, our huge range of pen kits, blanks and project kits which will keep you busy for hours on end! They're perfect for making hand-crafted gifts or items to sell at craft fairs.

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Works submitted must be your own and must be made using at least one product purchased from Turners Retreat.

Ian Ethel 23/10/2026

Ian is vice chairman at Trent Valley Woodturning Club and a member of the RPT. He is known for his off-centre turning, having turned a 9-centre honey dipper at a previous demo. He also turned off-centre cabriole legs for his 3-legged stool at Woodworks at Daventry.



Offset Bud Vase

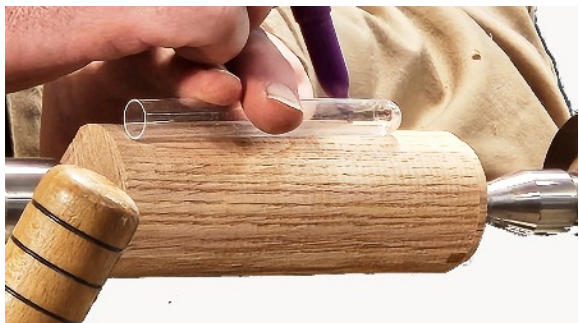
Ian's first project was an offset bud vase. He said with all offset turning, a face shield is highly recommended for safety. He marked the diagonals to find the centre and marked two offsets, approximately half an inch either side of the centre.



Ian drilled a 1/2" hole to suit the size of the insert and chamfered the leading edge.



Ian used the tube to mark the cut lines. The top and bottom of the tube will remain enclosed, with the rest of the tube being exposed.



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- 4mm (3/16") Diamond Parting Tool
- 19mm (3/4") Round Nose Scraper

Individual Chisels also available to Buy



The felt pen lines show the length of the cut and the approximate shape. A sharp cut at one end and a gentle curve from the other end.



The sharp cut at the top end is made deeper until it breaks into the central hole.



The shallow curve from the bottom is then made deeper to extend the length of the visible hole.

Ian used a brass wire brush to enhance the visible grain of the Ash.



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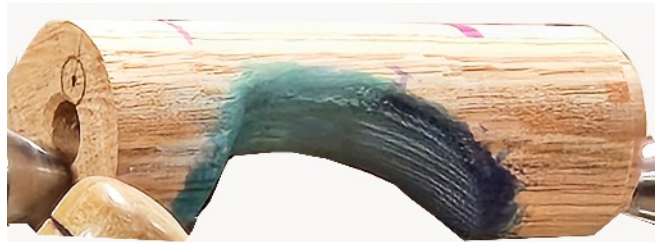


Even though it looks purple, Ian applied Chestnut Royal Blue spirit stain to about halfway up the cut. Any over stain of the cut area will be removed later.



Ian then applied a coat of green stain, merging the two colours.

The colouring completed.



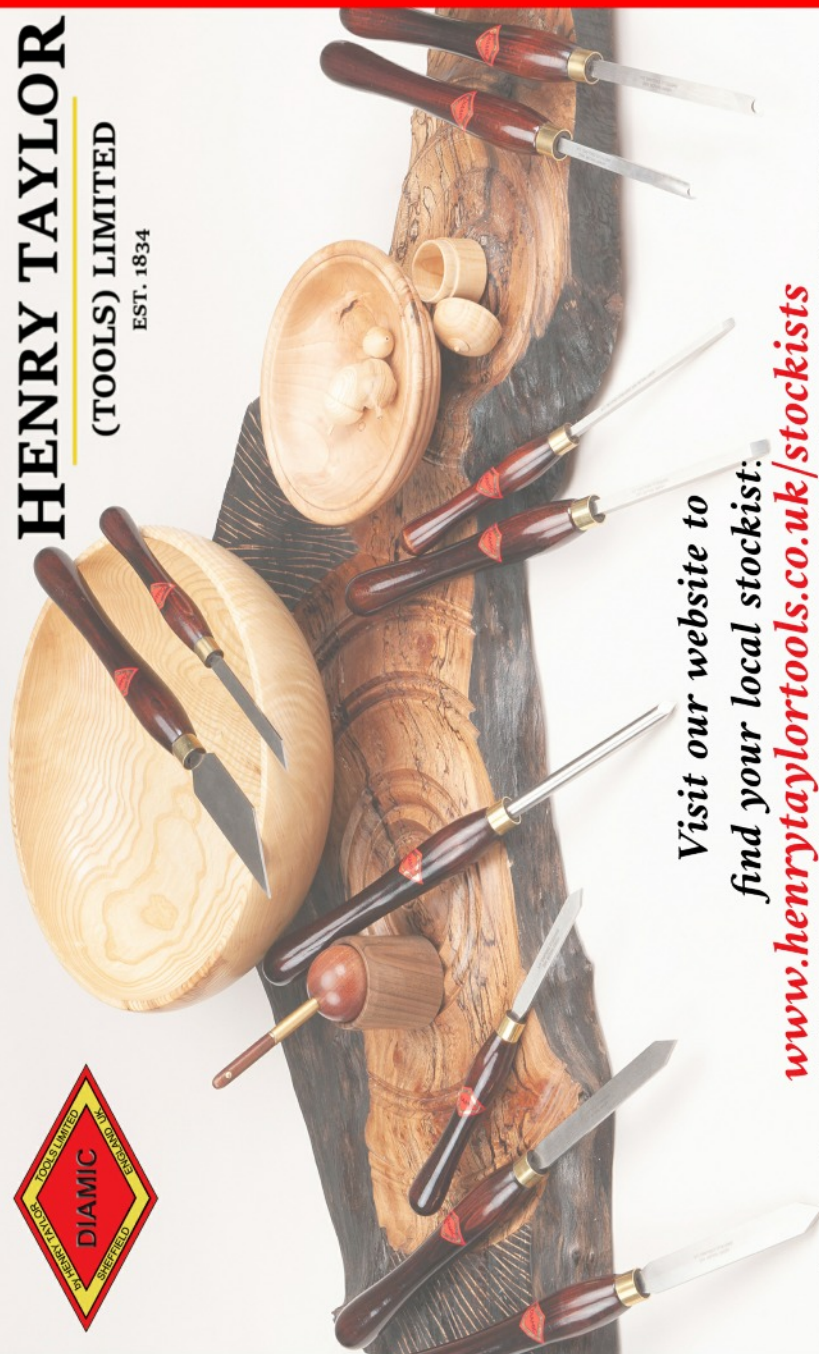
Ian repeated the cut, this time the sharp cut started at the base and the gentle curve started at the top.



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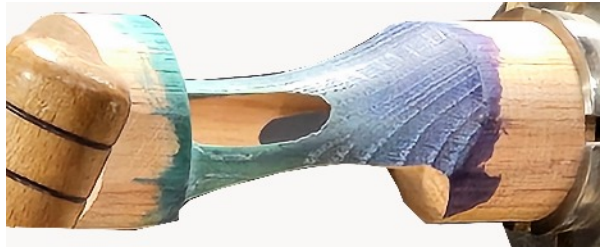


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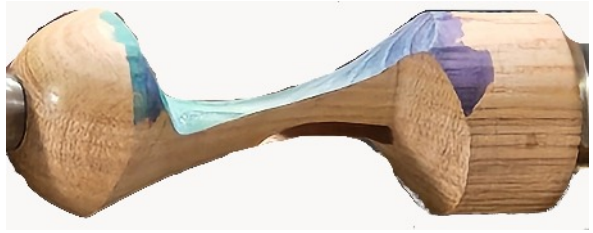
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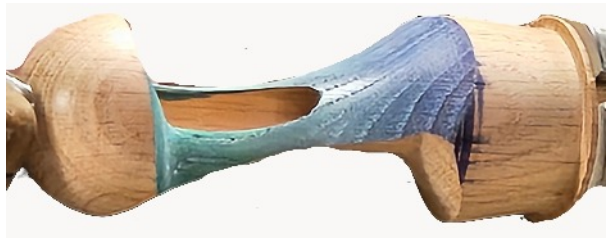
The depth of cut is such that the central hole visibly overlaps each side.



Ian then rounded over the top of the vase.



While still held in the chuck, Ian tapered the bottom of the vase.



Mounting it back between centres enabled Ian to finish tapering the bottom and tidy up most of the base.



Using an SDS chuck fixed to a dovetailed scrap of wood, Ian can hold sanding arbors. He sanded the bottom of the vase.





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Offset Bud Vase

The finished offset bud vase with a plastic flower from The Range.





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Cabriole Leg

Ian's next two offset turning projects were two forms of cabriole leg. Depending on the offset position, the leg can kick out at the front (a) or on the diagonal (b).



a) Offset parallel to side, leg kicks out to the front.



a) Offset on diagonal, leg kicks out diagonally.





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Cabriole Leg Using Offset Turning

Ian started with a Sycamore blank, 55mm x 55mm x 300mm. He marked the pommel and foot offsets according to the diagram on page 24 (approx 1/2")



Using a 40° bowl gouge, Ian cut the curves for the pommel down to round. He said the bowl gouge gives a more consistent cut than a skew chisel when trying to make multiple legs.



Ian cut a small cove to define the start of the foot. This helps when cutting the curves for the leg.

Ian then re-mounted the piece between the head stock offset. The tail stock remained on true centre. This creates the curve on the back of the leg.

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A sharp curve at the pommel end and a gentle curve from the foot end creates the curve on the back of the leg. Only the headstock has an offset.



Tailstock moved to offset position. Headstock already offset.



With both the tail stock and the head stock offsets, Ian cut a sharp curve at the foot end and a more gradual curve from the pommel end to shape the front of the leg.

Back on true centres, Ian curved the bottom of the foot to finish off the leg.



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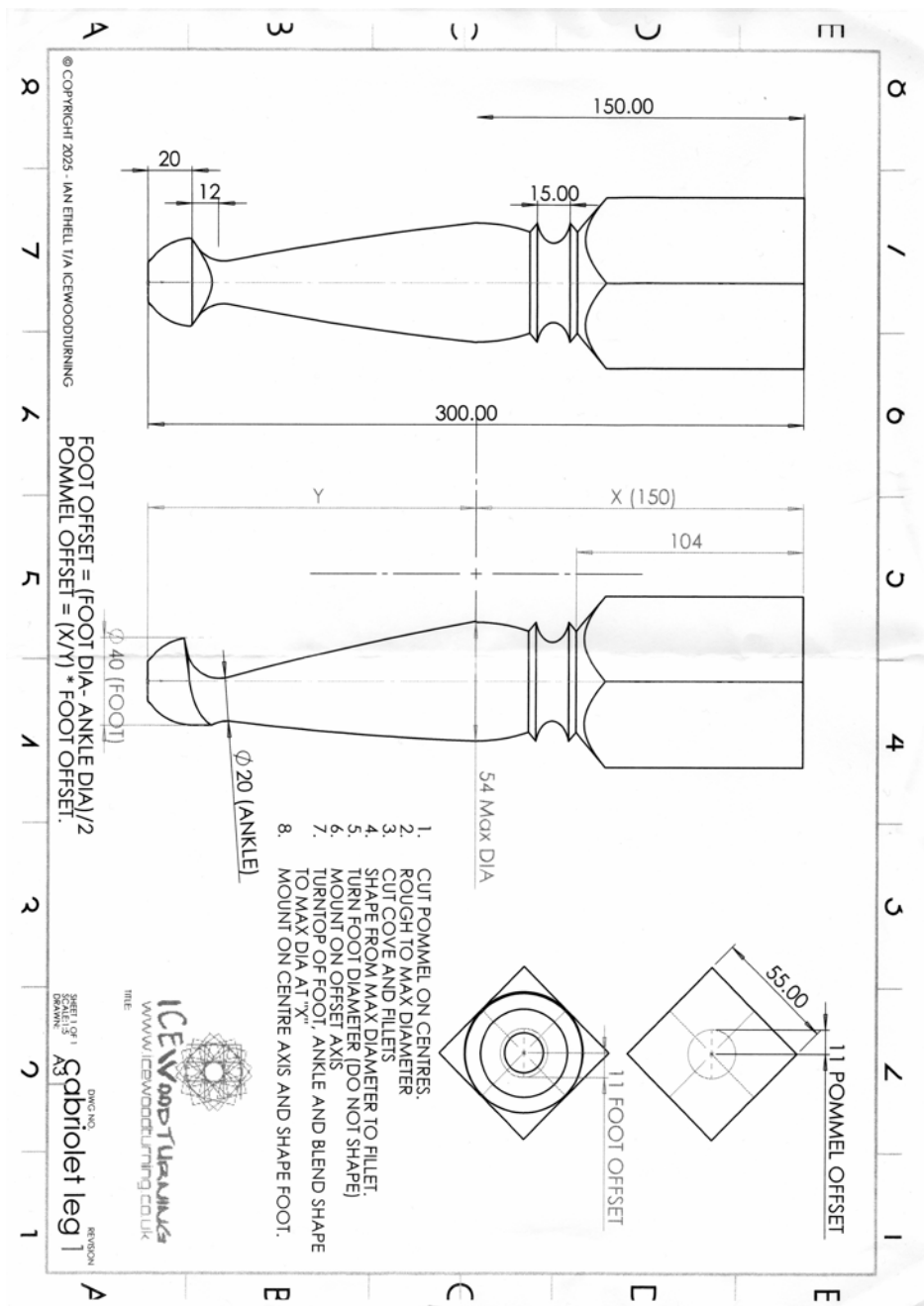
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Ian Ethel's Plan for an Alan Batty Cabriole Leg



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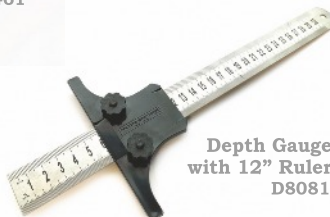
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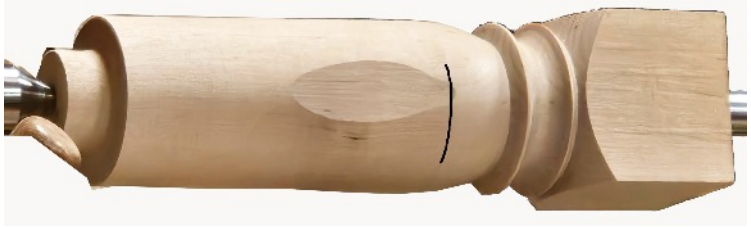
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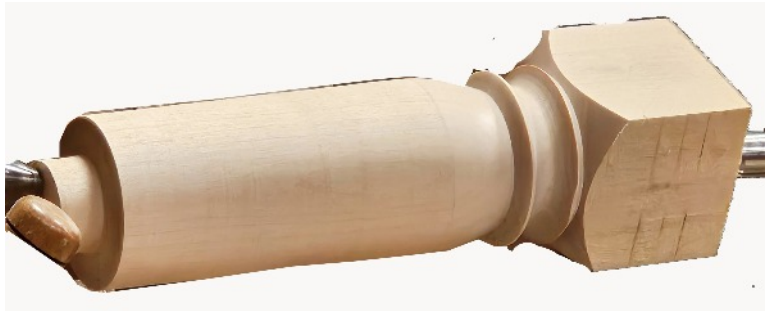
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Alan Batty Cabriole Leg



Ian's second cabriole leg was in the style turned by Alan Batty. This is a simpler shape but it does rely on maths to find the high point of the leg curve. Ian marked a line at the high point - see picture above.

With the leg on true centre, Ian cut the curves on the pommel as before. He then turned a cove just below the pommel and turned a curve from the high point line up to the cove. He also turned the foot to size.



Offsetting the tailstock end. Ian now shaped the lower part of the leg.

Ian cut the first sharp curve, from the top of the foot down to the ankle. He then turned a gentle curve from the high point down to the ankle. The two curves are merged at the ankle.



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The overhang between the foot and the ankle was gradually turned down until the back of the foot aligned with the back of the ankle - see picture below.



Ian rounded over the bottom of the foot and sanded the curves to merge the overlapping lines.

**The finished Alan Batty
style cabriole leg.**



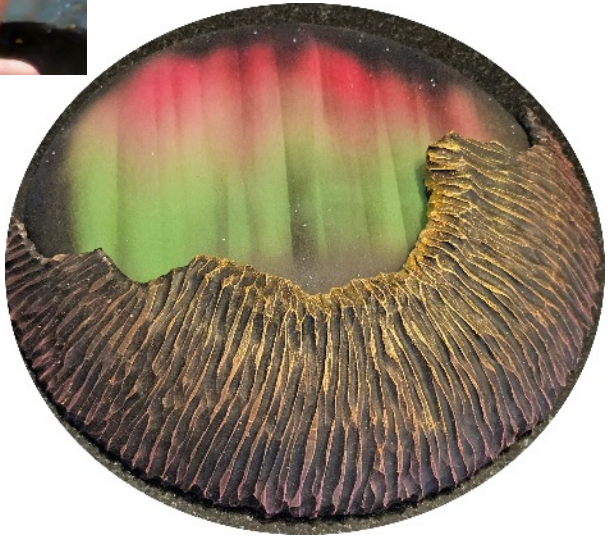
AWGB Seminar 2026

Held at the Crown Plazza hotel in Stratford-on-Avon. 10 demonstrators. 5 simultaneous demonstrations, 4 times a day over 2 days, plus master classes and sharpening clinics. There was also a gallery of work and trade stands.



Emma Cook gave 3 different demos during the weekend.

“Northern Lights” hanging form.



“Fusion of Glass and Wood”



Resin lidded hollow form.





Gary Rance.



4 piece candlestick.

Mary Rose Pepper Mill.

Copy of a 500 years old
pepper mill found on the
sunken ship Mary Rose.





Pascal Oudet

Hidden Joint Box.

The blank is split between growth rings, allowing the join on the finished box to be hidden by the growth rings.

The starting blank. Sandblasted or wire brushed to expose the growth rings. It is then cut on a bandsaw between rings.



The finished egg shaped box. Pascal used an insert, made from the same wood, to join the two halves.





Ronald Kanne

Self Closing Hollow Form

Shaped and hollowed from very fresh wood. As it dries, the thin walls close up the gap.



Oval Box with Threaded Lid

The recessed lid fits into a routed slot.





Stuart Mortimer



A; Basic Hollow Form with Open Twist

B: Tazza with rope edge and open twist stem.

C: Matching goblets with open twist stem and solid twist core.

D: Goblet with twisted stem and different coloured solid core.



Emmet Kanne
President of the Irish
Woodturners Guild





Katie Armstrong
Youngest member to
have joined the Register
of Professional Turners.



Phil Irons

World-renowned woodturner.



Gallery pieces that caught my eye.



More gallery pieces that caught my eye.



Joke

Spotted in the January 2006 Newsletter by Graham Ball:

Please join me in remembering a great icon of the entertainment community.

The Pillsbury Doughboy died yesterday of a yeast infection, and complications from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 71.

Doughboy is survived by his wife, Play Dough, two children, John Dough, and Jane Dough, who has one in the oven. He is also survived by his elderly father, Pop Tart.

Doughboy was buried in a lightly greased coffin.

Dozens of celebrities turned out to Pay their respects, including Mrs. Buttersworth, Hungry Jack, The California Raisins, Betty Crocker, the Hostess Twinkies and Captain Crunch.

The grave site was piled high with flours.

Aunt Jemima delivered the eulogy, and lovingly described Doughboy as a man who never knew how much he was kneaded. Doughboy rose quickly in show business, but his later life was filled with turnovers. He was not considered a very smart “cookie”, wasting much of his dough on half-baked schemes.

Despite being a little flaky at times, he still, as a crusty old man, was considered a roll model for millions.

The funeral was held at 3:50 for about 20 minutes.

Items For Sale

Disclaimer

The club is not responsible for any item appearing on these pages. The buyer and seller must make their own arrangements as to the condition, suitability, delivery, payment and price etc.

Workzone Woodturning Lathe For Sale



Offers in the region of £170.

See Mike Smith at Coombe Abbey Wood Turners
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Notices

Christmas Party

The Christmas Party will be held on Saturday 12th December at Walsgrave Baptist Church Hall. Arrive at 12.30 for a 1pm meal. It will be a buffet similar to last year. The cost is £10 per person.

The competitions are detailed below. There will also be a quiz and a raffle. There will be a table for display items.

Christmas Competitions

All items must be mainly turned. The Rhodes' competition is open to anyone who hasn't won first prize in any competition before. All other competitions are open to all members.

Rhodes' Trophy:	Any turned item.
Austin's Trophy:	An animal/bird/creature.
Jim Elliott:	Turned item with decoration.
John Bradbury:	Hollow Form.
Roger Warren-Finding:	Any turned item.

Advanced notice. Can all first prize winners please bring back their large shields in time for the Christmas party on Saturday December 12th. Dust them if necessary but don't attempt to clean them. The trophy shop will do that, without polishing off the names of previous winners!

Workshop £1 Charge

Club members attending the workshop must pay £1. This includes a raffle ticket for the 50/50 raffle.

Members having lessons after the first two free lessons, must pay.

Teachers, Members at a committee meeting and members attending events, do not have to pay.

Your Committee

Wanted - Raffle Prize Donations

Donations please for the Christmas Party raffle prize draw. We would like more raffle prizes. Wine, chocolates, biscuits, good turned items etc.

Activities of other clubs in the Midlands area

As a matter of courtesy and to ensure that there is space available to accommodate members wishing to visit other clubs demo's, please use the contact telephone number where shown.

North Warwickshire & Hinckley Woodturners

Tuesday November 3 Christmas themed Hands-On

Tuesday November 17 Demo Bill Bennett

Contact Rob Sheehan 07905185122

Tudor Rose Woodturners

Thursday 12 November Peter Carless

Thursday 26 November Andy James A Pendant

Contact Colin Smith 07939-004375 communications@tudor-rose-turners.co.uk

West Midlands Woodturners

Sunday 15th November Hands On – AGM, Gadgets, Gizmos and Buffing system

Contact Chris Jones 07580 195561 crjones5691@gmail.com

Trent Valley Woodturners

Wednesday 11 November Colin Watson "The Crazy Woodman"

Contact admin@trentvalleywoodturners.co.uk

West Northants Woodturners

Wednesday 4th November Aid Finch

Wednesday 18th November Chris Harkin

Contact Tom Donnely 01327 349093

Heart of England Woodturners

Friday 13th November - Open lathe night

Contact Giles Dugmore (Chair) 0779 2424775

Coombe Woodturners Branded Items for Sale



COOMBE WOODTURNERS CLUB LOGO WEAR

Polo Shirt £16.50

Hoodies

Overhead £26.50

Zipper £28.50

Sweatshirts Crewneck £22.50

Fleece Jacket £24.50

Soft Shell Jacket £31.50

Soft Shell Bodywarmer £27.50

New Style Jacket £28.50

Please order and pay through Lee or Martin

Items take around 2-3 weeks lead time if not in stock

Thank you for supporting your Club

Workshop Notice

Coombe Abbey woodturners

As agreed at the AGM on the 4th January 2025

From 1st February 2025 we will be introducing a £1 entry fee into the workshop for all members.

This will include the use of the workshop & equipment Also to include tea & coffee you will also get entry into the 50/50 raffle each day you come into the workshop.

Clarification to the above notice:

The charge does NOT apply to tutors who are teaching a student, nor to cMembers when attending a committee meeting. It does apply to Members who have already had their two free lessons.

This will not cover all costs but will go a some way to helping the club to run the workshop through the year and give members a chance of winning a little more money each month.

Thank you for your support

The Committee

Calendar of Events 2026

Nov	14	Sat	Walsgrave	Robert Till
Dec	12	Sat	Walsgrave	Christmas Party

Calendar of Events 2027

Jan	8	Sat	Walsgrave	AGM
Feb	19	Fri	Shilton	Bill Bennett
Mar	12	Sat	Walsgrave	TBD
Apr	16	Fri	Shilton	TBD
	30/1	Fri/Sat	Daventry	Woodworks at Daventry
May	24	Fri	Shilton	Paddy Byrne
Jun	25	Fri	Shilton	TBD
Jul	16	Fri	Shilton	TBD
Aug	13/14	Fri/Sat	Bedford	Chestnut Woodturning Weekender
	20	Fri	Shilton	TBD
Sep	3	Sat	Walsgrave	TBD
Oct	15	Fri	Shilton	TBD
Nov	13	Sat	Walsgrave	Terry Bray
Dec	11	Sat	Walsgrave	Christmas Party

Meeting Locations:

Walsgrave Baptist Church, 10am - 4pm
Hinckley Road, Coventry, CV2 2EX.

Shilton Village Hall, 6:30pm - 9pm
Wood Lane, Shilton, CV7 9JZ

Coombe Abbey Workshop 10am - 12 noon, 1pm - 3pm
Brinklow Rd, Coventry CV3 2AB

Next Meeting

Saturday 14th November Demo by Robert Till. 10 am Walsgrave Baptist Church

Coming up

Saturday 12th December Christmas Party. 12:30 pm Walsgrave Baptist Church