

Coombe Abbey Woodturners NEWSLETTER

September



2024

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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.

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**Copy Deadline for the October issue of the Newsletter is:-
Monday 23rd September 2024**

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

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From the Editor



Welcome to the
September newsletter.
As there were no

demonstrations this month, I have raided my archive again to find previous demonstrations that I think you will like. They come from 2010 and 2011 meetings at the Hinckley woodturning club.

On Bank Holiday Sunday 25th August and Monday 26th, we had a gazebo to display our wares and sell raffle tickets for the air ambulance. Many thanks to all the volunteers who came along to help set up, sell raffle tickets, talk to visitors or keep the public entertained on the lathe or pole lathe.

Our next demonstration is Steve Heeley on Saturday 7th September at Walsgrave. He always gives a good demo so please come along and boost the numbers.

Regards

Rob

Chairman's Jottings

Hello to all,

We, as a club, have just had an open day at Coombe Country Park over the August bank holiday attending on Sunday and Monday. I was very pleased to see a good turnout of members helping to make the weekend a success. As usual we had demonstrations on the Pole Lathe



and also a powered lathe. Thanks to those members who demonstrated on these machines. There was a good display of members work and also a display of items to be sold on behalf of our chosen charity (The Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance).

On the Monday afternoon the Annual raffle was drawn and my thanks go to Jill Steedman for heading up this important fundraising event. It is not just down to one person though, as the main first prize was made in the workshop at Coombe by a group of people and my thanks go to them and those who donated all the other excellent prizes. If you bought tickets or sold tickets to others, then thank you for that. We were not able to attend the Daffodil Festival this year to sell tickets, as the event was cancelled due to flooding. We did not attend the Godiva Festival this year either, due to changes in management and the lack of a Marquee. We were also told that we could not bring our vehicles to transport our equipment away from the event until eleven o'clock at night after the music festival had finished and, of course, no one wanted to stay that long after arriving at 09.00 in the morning to set up our stand. Let us hope that next year the Management will see sense and improve the arrangements.

There is a club meeting at Walsgrave Baptist Church on Saturday 7th September 2024 starting at 10am and finishing at 4pm approx. Steve Heeley is the demonstrator who has visited the club on a number of occasions and always entertains us with an excellent demonstration. I am looking forward to this and I hope you all will be able to attend. I look forward to meeting you.

There will be an evening meeting at Shilton Village Hall on 18th October 2024 starting at 6,30pm when our own Lee Cartwright will be demonstrating. Please make a note of this on your calendar as we need a good turnout to support Lee and the Club.

It won't be long now until our Christmas Party in December. The committee will be deciding on the pieces to be turned for each competition at our next committee meeting and these will be announced in the next Newsletter, so please keep a lookout for this and make sure you enter a piece in one or more competitions. Let us try and make it hard for the judges to decide on a winner.

All for now, and I hope to see you all soon.
Keep those bevels rubbing

Regards

Graham

One Line Philosopher:

Tact is the art of making a point without making an enemy.
Isaac Newton

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Bob Chapman

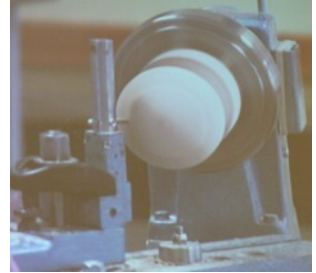
28th March 2010



Bob started by showing us how to make a Singapore Ball - a spiked ball, where the spikes can move back



into the ball so it can be handled safely. It was based on Dave Springett's original design. He showed us several jigs to turn a perfect sphere, and even showed us how to turn a sphere by hand. A Singapore ball has 32 holes (& points), so it takes him 5 or 6 hours of quite tedious work.



To mark out for the holes, set a pair of compasses at ball diameter $\times 0.526$ (e.g. Ball diameter = 200mm, set compass to $200 \times 0.526 = 105.2\text{mm}$). Choose the worst defect for the centre of the circle as that will be drilled out. Place the compass anywhere on the circle, and draw another circle. Wherever the circles cross, that marks the centre of another circle and the centre of a hole. Continue until 12 circles/holes have been marked. The circle pattern leaves 20 triangles. The centre of each triangle gives the location of another hole, giving 32 holes in total. He uses a cage chuck to hold the ball when drilling the 10mm holes, 18mm deep. A small scraper enlarges the inside of the hole, to let the spike move freely. The spikes are teardrop shaped and are just forced into the hole using a home-made leather-lined handle.

Bob's method for hand turning a sphere uses a groove cut into a cylinder. The groove is then placed between centres. By turning down to the groove (turn down, check, turn down, check...), a perfect sphere is produced.



Bob then showed us some of his 'artistic' turned pieces. These are based on a simple bowl shape, that is cut and re-glued to produce vary different shapes, such as his "Tenerife Opera House" and "Married Quarters". Bob showed us how he created his "Married Quarters".

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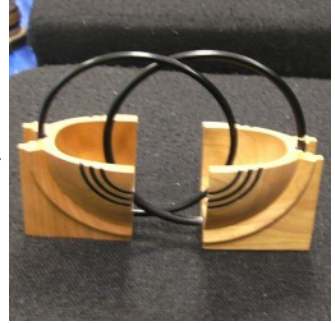
Works submitted must be your own and must be made using at least one product purchased from Turners Retreat.



Scan me!

Bob Chapman - continued

“Married Quarters” starts as a beech bowl about 1” x 6”. This is cut in half on a bandsaw, and the halves re-glued along the rim of the bowl. This is cut in half again to produce quarters. The cutting exposes the thickness of the bowl wall, so an even wall thickness is important. After measuring the external diameter of the quarters, Bob turned two rings to fit outside the quarters. He snapped one ring to allow them to be interconnected (can be invisibly re-glued with super glue).



Bob’s third piece was an earring stand, made from Sycamore with a blackwood finial. After trueing up the end, Bob drilled a 10mm hole for the finial. Bob cut a matching spigot on a piece of blackwood, and glued it into place. He then turned the finial and merged the curve into the top of the stand. Bob used a plywood template to drill the holes for the earrings. Bob likes to hollow out the base to make a tray for rings. The finished earring stand and some of Bob’s other work can be seen below. At the bottom is a bowl made from coffee stirrers!



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Paul Coker and the Rose Engine

April 2010

With a rose engine, not only does the work rotate, but the headstock also moves from side to side, driven by a rosette. A rosette can produce several different designs, by changing settings on the lathe. Many different rosettes are also available. Rose Engines have existed since the 16th century. Paul showed slides of a typical English Rose Engine produced by Moxton in 1580. During the reign of Cromwell, rose engine work declined. It was revived in Victorian times, when it was known as ornamental turning. In about 1700, the fly-cutter was introduced. This is a rotating cutter that greatly speeds up the cutting process. Even so, rose engine work is very slow compared to 'plain' turning. Original Holtzapffel rose engines & parts are still available at auctions and specialist sales. Paul demonstrated the capabilities of his own travelling Holtzapffel rose engine. He also showed many slides of his own and other ornamental turning work.



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Gerry Marlow 16/11/2010

Gerry first demonstrated the new “Decorating Elf” tool from Henry Taylor. This consists of a handle into which you can insert burr cutters. The cutter is held in place with a magnet. The standard package includes a ball shaped cutter. There are also optional oval and a straight-sided cutters. He took a round blank and shear scraped the front face. Gerry created three coves and then used the Elf to texture each cove. Holding the tool at different angles produces different decorations. Gerry then



used a point tool to highlight the texturing. The Elf kit includes a short bristled brush. Gerry used this to clean up the texturing. Gerry was selling the kit (handle + 3 cutters + brush) for £73.

Gerry’s second project was a pomander turned from Purple Heart. Gerry showed how to waste as little wood as possible in making this project. He had prepared the square blank by cutting off the four corners on a table saw and rounding off the remainder. One of the cut off corners would be used to form the stem and another to form the top finial.

Gerry started by mounting the wood in a chuck and cutting a cone from the end, using a thin parting tool. The cone would form the base of the pomander. Using a long grind spindle gouge, Gerry shaped the cone base,



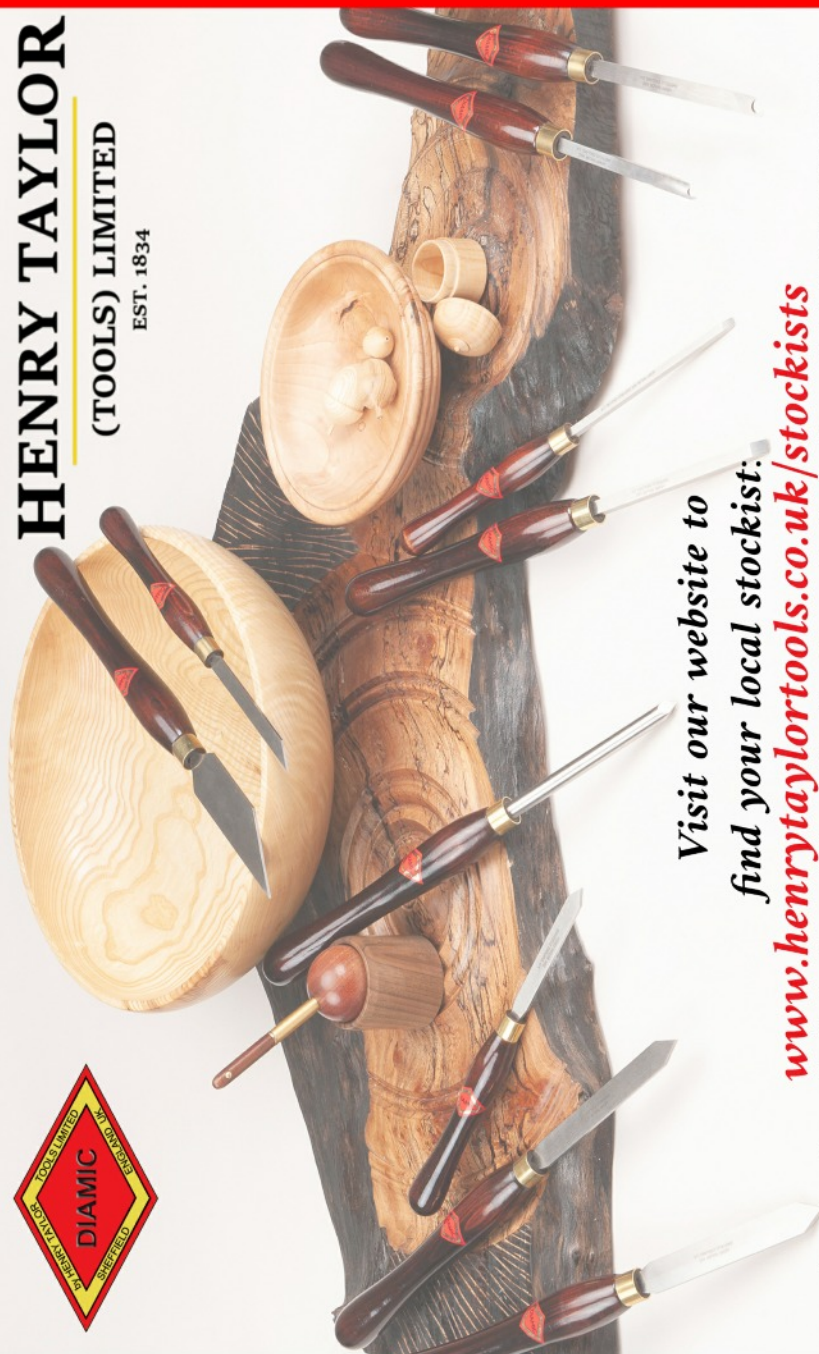
sanded it and decorated it. Gerry then cut another cone from the top of the blank to form the top of the pomander. The top is removable, like a box lid, so Gerry cut a recess where it would fit onto the body of the pomander. He also cut a hole for the finial. The remaining main body of the blank was then used to form the bowl of the pomander. Using a Hamlet “Little Gem” tool, Gerry hollowed out the bowl and sanded using paper wrapped round a rubber ball on a stick. Gerry used Keith Rowley’s own slotting saw (with modifications) to cut



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Gerry Marlow - continued

slots in the body. The indexing facility on the Vicmarc lathe ensured the slots were cut evenly around the circumference. A router or drilled holes are an alternative to cutting slots.

Gerry then used one of the cut-off corners to make the stem. He turned a long cove in the centre and a half bead at each end to disguise the join. The finial was then turned from another cut-off corner. Unfortunately, Gerry's first attempt broke due to a fault in the wood. A second attempt was successful (lucky there were 4 corner pieces cut off the original wood blank). Gerry then assembled the pieces to produce a pomander approximately 12" high from an original wood blank only half that length - a great saving. After an auction for the piece, I am now the owner of the finished pomander.



Gerry's last piece was a scoop in Teak. He started by showing us how to turn a round ball freehand, by turning a cylinder, marking thirds and then round to a ball. After turning the handle, he held the ball in the chuck with the handle in the gap between two jaws. He then hollowed the centre until he reached the handle. If the scoop is for food use, he said we should use Sycamore or Beech, and use a food safe finish.



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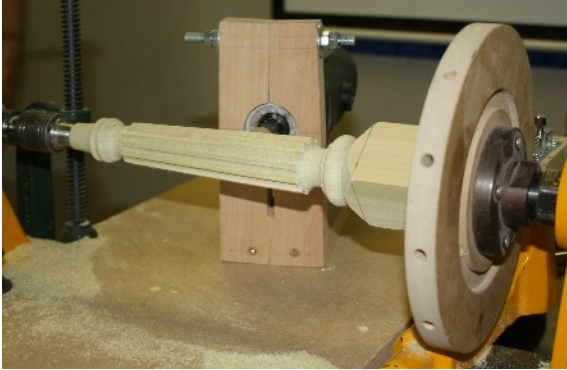
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Richard Findley 16/08/2011

Richard demonstrated the use of a router (Trend T5) to create patterns on a turned piece. His first piece was a table leg in Tulip wood. Turning the leg was a demonstration itself, but this article will concentrate on the use of the router to create a series of flutes along the length of the tapered leg.

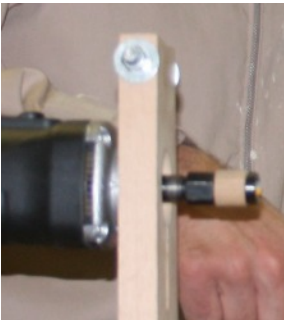


Richard clamped an MDF platform to the bed of the lathe. Another jig held the router parallel to the bed at centre height. The router jig is moved by hand along the platform. To create evenly spaced flutes, Richard has made his own indexing plate out of MDF.



To cut flutes, Richard uses a round nose cutter.

If reeds are required, then a beading cutter can be used.



Richard has made his own depth stop out of Tufnol (someone recommended College Engineering Supplies). This is just a push fit over the cutter. He then made a series of light cuts up and down the leg, to reach the required depth. Using the index wheel, Richard rotated the piece to create 12 flutes. Sanding is, of course, done with the lathe stopped.





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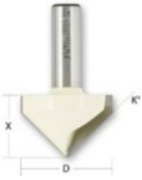
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Richard Findley - continued

Richard's second piece was a box lid in Maple, with a routed pattern. As before, the making of the box is not described, only the use of the router.



Richard used a V-shaped router bit to make a horizontal groove across the width of the box lid. Using an indexing wheel mounted behind the chuck, he rotated the lid 120 degrees and made a second groove. Rotating the piece another 120 degrees, he made a third groove. This left a star shaped pattern on the lid. After taking the lid off the

lathe, Richard put a ring of masking tape around the top of the lid, leaving it proud of the top surface. He then poured liquid resin onto the lid. The masking tape prevents it from running down the sides. Richard uses the 'West System' 2-part epoxy resin although he said ordinary car repair resin can be used. Richard mixed in acrylic paint (oil paint is better) to colour the resin. It took approximately 15-20 minutes to harden (during which Richard turned the bottom of the box).



After mounting the lid back in the chuck, Richard then used light draw cuts until the wood was exposed again. As the resin sits in V-grooves, deeper cuts will result in narrower resin lines, or a domed or concave top will result in resin lines that vary in thickness.

Some of Richard's work



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Two Days Turning With Steve Heeley

by Rob Sheehan March 2010

I decided to brush up my turning skills, by having two days tuition from Steve Heeley. The tuition cost £160 and ran from 10 am to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday. The course was held at Steve's home near Cannock and Steve's wife provided a light lunch and plenty of tea on both days. Steve has a large workshop with 3 Vicmark lathes and a small Axminster lathe. His largest Vicmark lathe can turn 7' spindles using an extension to the bed. I did my turning on the small Axminster lathe, which was fine for my level of experience. On the Saturday, I started with spindle turning and practised my coves, beads and fillets. Steve also showed me how to sharpen my tools. My reward for not wrecking his tools, was to turn a candlestick in Oak. This followed the pattern of one Steve had done earlier. Mine turned out rather 'heavy', but I was pleased with the finish. On the Sunday, I tried bowl turning, starting with a practise bowl in pine. This was followed by an undercut bowl in Idigbo (described by Steve as poor man's Oak) and finally a natural edge bowl in Cherry. I would like to claim the pieces are mine, but after I had done my bit, Steve would come along with a finishing cut that would improve the piece no end. All of the bowls were finished in oil and beeswax, except for the pine practise bowl which I sanded and finished when I got home.



Left: Candlestick in Oak.

Right: Pine bowl



Left: Undercut bowl in Idigbo.

Right: Natural edge bowl in Cherry.



Sanding needs as much care as construction and design. As much care needs to be taken in sanding as in the construction of a piece of work. A few minutes poor sanding technique can irreversibly destroy great craftsmanship and many hours work.



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Two Days Turning With Steve Heeley - continued

Steve was a very patient tutor, and I learned a lot about tool control and using the right tool for the job. I would recommend Steve to anyone wanting to improve their turning, from beginners like me, to more experienced turners. Here are a few photos of Steve's workshop.



Steve doing the final cut to my Cherry bowl.

His 7' Vicmark lathe in the background is out of action while he replaces the bearings.



Steve Heeley and his unfinished hollow form

Some of Steve's hats and other work, from when he demonstrated at the club.



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Open Day at Coombe Abbey

Here are a few photos from our display and demonstrations at Coombe Abbey over the bank holiday. The raffle was also drawn. The amount raised for the Air Ambulance will be announced at the AGM.



Above and Left: Graham Ball assembling a segmented bowl.

Right: Rod Young turning a segmented vase.

Below: The Coombe stand with charity pieces and pieces for sale. Alison selling raffle tickets.



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Equipment 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.

Peter Smith - Items For Sale

For sale: an Axminster Awwsl100 lathe with two chucks and various other things. A set of Henry Taylor chisels and an Axminster Dust extractor Awede2. I'm looking for £750 Ono. I'm in Nuneaton.
Contact: petersmith11353@gmail.com



Equipment for sale - continued

Trent Valley Woodturners - Six Lathes For Sale

Trent Valley Woodturners have six identical lathes for sale for **£850** each. The lathes will be available around mid August.

The lathes are not badged but are almost equivalent to the Sturmer Holzstar DB 1202 lathe. These are on sale in this country by at least 3 dealers priced new between £2700 and £3000+. Manuals for the lathes are also available free on the Internet.

Our lathes are about 10 years old, the only differences I can see are the new DB1202 have a turning wheel on the left of the head stock and an emergency stop on the top of the head stock.

Our workshop is in Kegworth on the village hall site. If you wish to inspect the lathes, please get in touch and I will arrange a suitable time. The lathes will come with a chuck, faceplate, tool rest and rotating centre. The Camvac and the castor system are not included in the sale.

Keith Hicklin. Secretary. trentvalleywoodturners@outlook.com



Equipment for sale - continued

FOR SALE (Due to upgrading to a Herald)

Record Power CL1 lathe (bought 2020) £350

Fitted with Speed Genie variable speed unit (2023).

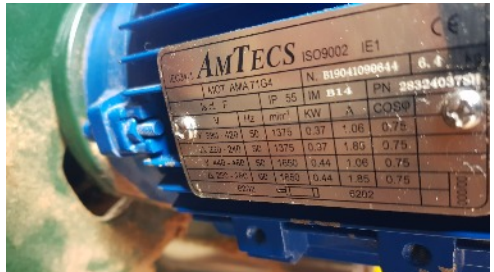
Also has new quick release banjo.

Bench mounting

To include some MT1 centres with a 2MT adaptor and 2 gouges.

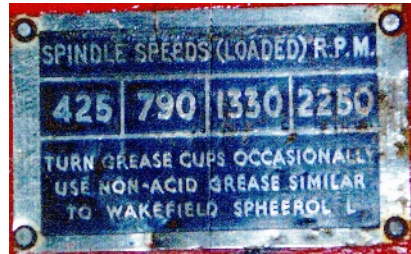
Collection only, from Narborough, Leicestershire

Contact Giles Headley in first instance.



Equipment for sale - continued

Jubilee Lathe. *Reduced price £350.* See Graham or Lee. Tools and chuck included. Currently dismantled for storage but was fully working.



Steam Bending Timber

Hi Rob,

A picture showing the delighted winner of this year's Rocking Chair!

Also, 4 pictures of Phil and Pat steam bending timber for the back, arms and crinoline of next year's raffle prize - a Windsor Chair.

Cheers
Giles



Giles Headley's Latest Work

This woodturning lark is not all glamour and creativity! My latest commission was to make a couple of pork pie dollies, used to form the pastry case for a 1lb pie, for my local butcher's shop. They measure 76dia x 90high to the shoulder. The original is tulipwood (centre), with copies in Sweet Chestnut (left) and Beech (right). Proceeds will be added to the club's Air Ambulance fund. These are only going to be used for display, but I gave them coats of Chestnut's Food Safe Finish.



Despite repeated requests for members to provide raffle prizes, very few did. The stool I made, from timber donated by new member Elizabeth Yates, is shown in the other photo. The lucky winner was our Chairman!!

Cheers
G

Notices

Booking Training Sessions

Michael Archer is now handling all training session bookings.

Please phone him on 02476 448311.

Do not book a session without Michael's prior agreement.

Donations Needed

Members are also asked to provide charity items for events and the display cabinet at the Coombe workshop.

Eric Taylor Memorial Trophy

The club has a new cut-glass trophy to be awarded to the best piece displayed at a demonstration.

In future, we may specify what item should be turned to win the trophy.



WhatsApp Group

The committee are proposing to set up a WhatsApp group to keep members better informed. It will be read-only (no posting). Keep watching for further updates.

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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 September 3rd Demo by Chris Grimshaw

Contact Steve Obrien 01788-521527

Tudor Rose Woodturners

Thursday 12 September Viv Harvey Demonstration

Thursday 26 September Steve Kearvel Demonstration

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

West Midlands Woodturners

Sunday 15th September 9.30 – 16.00 hrs Hands On – Turning Finials

Contact John Hooper 0121 354 8464

West Northants Woodturners

Wednesday 4th September Gerry Coles

Wednesday 18th September Henry Howard

Contact Tom Donnely 01327 349093

Trent Valley Woodturners

Wednesday September 11th Club meeting and demonstration

Contact Ian Ethell <https://www.trentvalleywoodturners.co.uk/contact/>

Calendar of Events 2024

Saturday January 6	AGM	Walsgrave
Saturday January 13	Display/Demo at Warwick Racecourse	
Friday February 16	Ian Ethell	Shilton
Saturday March 16	Chris Parker	Walsgrave
Saturday April 20	Mick Hanbury	Walsgrave
Friday/Saturday May 10/11	Woodworks at Daventry	
Saturday/Sunday July 6/7	Godiva Festival	
Saturday July 13	Gary Rance	Walsgrave
Bank Holiday Sunday/Monday 25/26 August	Coombe Workshop	
Saturday September 7	Steve Heeley	Walsgrave
Friday October 18	Lee Cartwright	Shilton
Saturday December 14	Christmas party 12:30	Walsgrave

Meeting Locations:

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

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

Next Meeting

**Saturday September 7th
Steve Heeley
Walsgrave Baptist Church
10 am start**

Coming up

Friday October 18th Lee Cartwright