



Making Shavings

The Newsletter of the North Wiltshire Woodturners Association

EDITORIAL

A very warm welcome to Issue 6.

A fortnight ago, I had a thoroughly enjoyable days work with Ian Murray-West which involved us collecting the clubs converted yew from the Haileywood sawmill. I couldn't resist getting myself three beautiful 1½" planks. The prices really are a steal and I urge you all to buy some of the best timber these shores can offer. My mind is buzzing with projects for this timber. It's just as well I will have to wait at least a year before I can put any of these plans into action.

On another matter, it is pleasing to see a few of you contributing articles for our Newsletter; many thanks to all our scribes and please keep it up.

All the best.

Clive Alabaster

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Doesn't time fly! Seems only a few days ago I was doing a few lines for the last 'Shavings', so no wonder I get so little time for my own turnings. As most of you know, I did a demo at the Bristol club last month and that was for me quite an ordeal. It's not too bad standing up in front of people you know like at our get togethers but it's another thing dodging the shavings and trying to chat and look clever, wired for

sound and on a 6ft screen to boot; and facing off to about 90 odd people!! However it turned out OK and I learnt a lot of how not to do things so perhaps I'll be better next time you see me.

That though is the way forward for us I believe; having the demonstrator with a mike and a close-up camera focused on the lathe so we can all see and hear. Next project for the committee!!

Don't forget that there is still some yew left at my place and Ian Murray-West's, he's got mainly planks and I've quite a few half rounds which are very cheap and several free branches. All it takes is a phone call to see if we are around.

At the AGM I thanked all the committee for the work they had done but due mainly to the greatness of the occasion I didn't believe I did a good enough job, so now I aim to put that right. In no particular order, there's Ian Murray-West for all of us to be grateful for as he now does the tea breaks all on his own *every meeting* and that lets us all off the hook so very many thanks Ian. Ron Headon does a great job with the website and I had comments from many overseas turners about what a professional job he does. Great Ron, keep up the excellent work. Brian King-Fisher does the raffle and over the year collected well over £200 which was brilliant so well done Brian. Ian Dudley as Secretary has to sit in the entrance as you all come in and beg for your subs and fees and it's the first time he's ever done such a job and he really has done well. Lastly there's Clive Alabaster who sorts us all out and keeps us on the straight and narrow. Apart from the unenviable job

as treasurer, he's organised the Winter Fayre we went to, made our club sign which was a work of art; produced all the labels for the exhibits and loads of other jobs we all take for granted, so our grateful thanks Clive and my own personal one for teaching me all the tricks of being a half proficient chairman.

Finally, can I just say that although our club has had a very good year and to most I believe very enjoyable, feedback is what we need in direction from you the members on what you'd like us to do as a club. If your happy we'd like to know; if your not please tell us as that is the only way we can put things right; even if it is anonymous. Tell us and we'll sort it!
Keep the shavings flying.

Ian Hooker

CLUB NEWS

CLUB NIGHTS

Venue: The club night meetings take place at Hook village hall, just north of Hook itself, between Wootton Bassett and Purton.

Times: The evening runs from 7.30pm to 9.30 pm although the hall is hired from 7pm to 10pm to enable us to set up and clear away (your help would be appreciated with both).

Fees: £2 on the night, however, bring a little extra and have a flutter on the raffle. All proceeds to club funds.

Diary:

5th March. Turning a burr with Bob Sawyer.

2nd April. Joe Kerrawn will be demonstrating turning a fancy light pull.

The all day event with Jason Breech will take place on Saturday 3rd May. This all-day event is being held on in our hall from

9am for a 10am start. Cost is £12 which includes our normal £2 hall hire and coffee/tea and biscuits provided. Please bring along anyone interested, and those of you who have seen Jason perform will know we'll be in for a good day. Jason will be turning assorted boxes amongst many other items.

There is *no* club night on 7th May. Remaining club nights for 2008 are:

4th June. Talk from Ian Shepherd on design software and a demo from Ken Crittle (and others) on jigs (for holding things, not dancing).

2nd July. Demo from Nigel Porter on Finishing/Polishing.

6th August. Demo from Ron Headon.

10th September. Demo from Mark Hancock.

1st October. Demo from Michael Rigby.

12th November. AGM.

3rd December. Christmas do plus demo from Clive Alabaster on long stemmed goblets.

Planning for other events is happening right now, watch this space.

MONTHLY THEMES

The "*Show and Tell*" themes for the forthcoming months are:

To bring to the club night on

5th March: an item incorporating other materials.

2nd April: an earring holder.

3rd May: a child's toy.

Items may be photographed for the web site (with owner's permission). You may also bring in any other item to show us all.

Article: Loss of a Good Friend **by Ian Shepherd**

You have all been there I am sure, when you mislaid your favourite screwdriver the one that nicely fitted your hand and never slipped, or lost that spanner you put the kink in so that it fitted that tight space. Remember how long you spent looking for them, it was as though you had lost an arm.

Well this happened to me just before Christmas although I did not lose anything my favourite Peter Charles fluted bowl gouge which I seem to have had since Adam (as in Eve) was boy finally had it's last sharpen, well you can't have fluted gouge without a flute.

The Christmas break gave me chance to look at the catalogues and read the reviews often to the sound of "I don't know why your looking at those you have had your Christmas present "they just don't understand do they! Anyway after a couple days, some hound dog looks and a quick tug of the purse strings senior management agreed to the purchase of a new gouge.

I decided on the Woodcut Pro Tip 16mm deep Fluted Bowl Gouge with replaceable tip £49.50 from Phil Iron's. It duly arrived the next day, so it was straight to the workshop first impressions were good it was well made, the long wooden handle gave it good balance, and it sat nicely in the hand.

In use I found the solid shaft was very comfortable to hold and gave vibration free control over the cutting tip which is made from high grade Swedish steel that holds its edge a lot longer than my old HSS gouge used to.

To sum up I am very pleased with the overall performance of the tool and can't wait to get my hands on the Spindle Gouge, and can sleep sound in the knowledge that next time I run out of flute all I need is a new tip.

If any one would like to try it out I am quite happy to bring along to a club night.

Article: Creative Woodturner

The article below is taken verbatim from an email sent to Ian Shepherd about the Creative Woodturner software. Ian will make a short presentation about this at our June club night.

Creative Woodturner is now so popular in the world of woodturning that it's going to be available to download online. Along with the new download version comes an all new woodturning website, www.creative-woodturner.com, featuring a free trial version and woodturning news.

Free Download

Due to massive success, a full download version of Creative Woodturner is now available for both domestic and international customers. The complete download comes as a trial version with the option to buy after 10 days.

Dr Matthew Ryan, creator of Creative Woodturner, said, "The software has always been successful at woodturning shows when I demonstrate it, by offering a full-trial version online, everybody can appreciate the true delights of using Creative Woodturner for themselves."

The best-selling woodturning program, which was launched in November 2004, has been sold in 25 countries worldwide.

This simple and quick-to-learn software package has allowed woodturners to create stunning 3D designs on their home computers before transferring them to their lathes.

Creative Woodturner's innovative and practical approach has brought the digital age to the age-old discipline of woodturning.

Creative Woodturner Social Group on Facebook

Furthermore, Creative Woodturner has also launched a Facebook group to coincide with the launch of its new website.

Dr Ryan, said: "The group called Creative Woodturner, is for everyone who enjoys woodturning.

"The Facebook group allows you to share photos and videos of woodturnings, discuss about designs, woods and woodturning ideas and chat with others who love woodturning."

Woodturning News

The new Creative Woodturner site also has a News feature, which will publish news on woodturning and other related articles from around the world.

If you have any woodturning news, articles, or events that you want publishing contact Creative Woodturner's news at news@creative-woodturner.com.

Best Regards,

The Creative Woodturner Team

SALES/WANTED

Bowl blanks in British and exotic hardwoods at 18/19 Market Hall, Swindon. Open 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Saturday. Contact Jim on 07882550286 or Di on 07951723335

Wanted! A microscope for use with the techniques in "Identifying Wood" by R. Bruce Holdley. Do you have one I could beg, borrow or buy for a (very) few pounds? I am also interested in any small off-cuts of unknown wood to practice with both the identification technique and miniature turning. Thanks.
Contact Roger Rowthorn on 01793 853674

Wanted! Used stamps please for charity. Anything and everything including 1st & 2nd class and foreign. Just put them in an old envelope and give them to me (Ian Hooker) from time to time.

Many thanks. IH.

Yew for Sale. The club has a large quantity of unseasoned yew for sale at approximately a quarter of the market price. There is a large range of planks from 1¼" to 3" thick and logs of various diameters. Please see Ian Hooker or Ian Murray-West who have price lists of what is available.

If any member wishes to place a free notice of item(s) for sale or wanted please see Clive.