



YewTurn

The Monthly Magazine for Norwich Wood Turners
Affiliated to the Association of Wood Turners of Great Britain



Vice Chairman's Report - February 2013

As Ivan was not able to get to the January meeting it falls to me to write the front page for this edition. At the last meeting we had a demonstration by Roger Groom who showed us how to make a four legged stool. It was a very entertaining and informative evening and I am sure that some of you will have a go at making one. In fact I got so engrossed watching that I forgot that I was supposed to be operating the camera at times. I am sure that Jon's report which you will find in this edition will remind you of any details that you have forgotten.

Another notable feature of the meeting was to be found on the display table. Labels were provided to record details of the pieces and their makers name could be filled in. This is very helpful for the person doing the critique and will help Jon to include some more information in YewTurn, in addition to the comments that he records.

At the AGM in April it would be good to see some more members being nominated for a place on the committee. Most of the members who formed the original committee are still serving on it.

The weather has been rather cold recently which has discouraged me from going out into the shed in the evenings. However I did venture in there today with a view to doing some preparation for my demonstration at the next meeting (yes, it may not look like it but I do attempt some preparation). It was still rather cold so I ended up sorting out split wet turned bowls and unlikely to be used pieces of wood for the recently installed wood burner instead. I was surprised by the amount of useless timber that was using up valuable space. I have always found it difficult to throw away a piece of wood but now that we have a cast iron beast to feed it is much easier. On the subject of wood burners does anybody have a simple method for processing shavings so that they can be burned efficiently?

Issue 74 - Index

1. Vice Chairman's Report
2. Grumpy's Demo
4. A Message From Ivan
5. Table Critique
7. AWGB Newsletter
8. A Trip On Albion ?
10. Dust Is Bad For You
12. More On Dust
14. What's On and The Back Page

As you will probably know the AWGB hold local workshops where a professional turner gives hands on training in a particular subject to a small group of members. I have attended two of these workshops, one with Simon Hope and the other with Andy Coates and I found them very useful.

We hope to arrange a workshop in Norwich and would be pleased to find out how many members would be interested in attending, and what topic they would like to have covered.

See You, Barry



Grumpy Makes A Four Legged, Backless Seat January 4th, 2013



I beg your forgiveness in choosing the title you see above. It felt more appropriate than saying "Grumpy Makes A Stool". Grumpy, also known as Roger Groom is a member of three clubs, Norfolk, Norwich, and Waveney. He has been turning for about 50 years now, and specialises in hollow

forms and spindle turning. When asked about a memorable moment he replied, without hesitation, attending the AWGB Symposium at Loughborough. You get a chance to see world class demonstrators, the instant gallery is inspiring, and it is packed with brilliance. A pet hate is seeing chucking marks and recesses



on the bottom of a piece.



The stool we were to see consists of a turned Elm seat with four legs and stretchers made of Maple. Starting with the seat, mark the centre, the 12" diameter, and the location points for the 4 legs. Roger then showed us a platform he had made with a 12degree slope. This allows the leg holes to be drilled on a pillar drill, each being 1" diameter. With the seat then mounted between a live steb centre and the

chuck face (use some router mat to protect the wood) you can then cut a dovetail recess on the underside. With the seat mounted in the chuck using the recess, you can trim the outer profile with a heavy bowl gouge, roll over the edge on the top face, and add a chamfer on the bottom face. Take care, do not cut back as far as the leg holes. If you choose to, you can also dish out the centre of the seat at this stage. The seat is now complete, so you can re-mount it between the live steb and the chuck face to remove the chucking recess, add decoration, etc.





YewTurn



The 4 Maple legs started life as 22" long blanks of 50mm square timber. With a leg mounted between a steb and a live centre, it was rounded off with a spindle roughing gouge to about 48mm diameter. Reduce the first 10 " to 47mm, cut a 1" diameter spigot at the other end (to fit into the seat) and then taper the remaining timber from the 10" point to the spigot. You

should take care to leave the seat spigots on the tight side (put a small chamfer on the end), and the taper

needs to be cut using a long flowing curve for best effect. Using a storyboard to ensure the layout on the leg is consistent, mark off for the decorative beads and the long and short stretcher drillings.



Use a skew to make 'V' cuts to define the beads, mark the



centre of each bead section, and roll over the edges, taking care to not lose the pencil line in the centre of each one. Also, you can roll over the edge of the foot at this stage. Mount the 4 legs in the seat, and rotate them to get the best grain presentation, then mark the face of each leg for the relevant long and short stretcher drilling. As you take the legs out of the seat, number them so that they go back in

the same position. The legs need to be drilled 7/8" for the stretchers, at a 7 degree tilt. Do this with a jig that will either hold the leg at 7 degrees on a flat pillar drill table, or if you can, tilt the table to the correct angle. Having drilled one of the holes in a leg, make sure you drill the second at a right angle to the first, maintaining the 7 degree tilt. Put all the legs back in the seat, set them up in the correct





orientation and alignment, and measure the full length of each stretcher, from the bottom of the drilled holes and add a 1/4" to each. Make sure you know which measurement relates to which pair of legs. Keep note of the 4 measurements and make a stretcher for each.

Cut a length of timber for each stretcher, and mount between a steb and a live centre. Round off to about 35mm, and cut a spigot with a small chamfer on each end to fit into the relevant leg. Again, care is needed at this point to ensure that the spigots are a good fit. Divide the remaining timber into 3, and taper the end sections down to the spigots.

Using PVA glue in all the joints, you can now do the final assembly. Fit the 4 legs loosely in the correct holes with the correct orientation, insert the 4 stretchers, and use a hammer and a wood block to drive all the joints up tight. While the stool is upside down, use some protection to ensure the top face does not get damaged. The final bit now. With the stool standing on a flat surface, run a pencil round the base of each leg and cut off with a sharp saw to get everything standing straight and level. All parts should have been sanded as you progressed, and now it is up to you to apply the finish of your choice.



Thanks Roger, an interesting demonstration.

An Apology From The Chairman

Well what a wonderful start to 2013 this has been. After a great Christmas visiting our kids and grandchildren we both returned home looking forward to seeing in the new year and I was looking forward to January 4th for the my first club night of 2013. Unfortunately we both went down with the NORO virus just before the New Year which laid us very low for a week or so. Therefore the only multicoloured fireworks we saw were of a totally different nature. I am really sorry not to see you all on the 4th Jan. but I did not want to risk bringing in any bugs. I look forward to seeing you all on the 1st of February.

Ivan Tatnell



Table Critique by Barry Mobbs, 4th January, 2013



On the display table this month I started a new idea, and going by the comments we overheard, it was actually a great success. The change was simple. If you put a piece on the table, you are now asked to fill in a ticket, noting your name, a short description, and the materials used in the piece. The net result is a critique write-up by me that allows everyone to have a fair and correct representation of their displayed work. Clearly, it was also of benefit to those looking at the table, allowing them to see and appreciate much more information. Thanks to all, and please continue with the idea. I will ensure that blank tickets and a pen are on the table for you at each meeting.

This month we saw a pair of pieces from Bill Hudson. First, an earring stand and pot made from Laburnum. Well finished with a mixture of waxes and burnishing cream. A very nice piece. Second was an unfinished bowl made from a large piece of Elm with interesting natural edge detail on one side.



Nice detailing round the rim which adds character.



Next up was a tall sewing compendium from Ron Lansdell. Made of Ash and Sycamore, the ball on top will be a pin cushion.

Alan Fordham was showing a very pleasant sugar bowl, thought to be made of Robinia and Purple Heart but discussion on this came to no fixed conclusion. This was Alan's first attempt at anything like this, so it is actually a fine

effort, even though Barry thought it was a bit on the heavy side.

Phil Cooper had a small pot on the table. Made of Purple Heart, the centre was hollowed to take a small container which could hold scented or aromatic oils for burning. Quite important for this type of thing is that it needs to





YewTurn

be quite heavy in the base to add stability. The pot had obviously been reverse chucked allowing the bottom to be finished well.



Andrew Moore took the prize for having the most interesting piece on the table. It was a machine made up from many and various scraps of wood, designed to cut a coarse internal thread. A very interesting technical exercise, allowing Andrew to make some replacement nuts to fit on the frame of a spinning wheel. The central rod on the left carries a small piece of hacksaw blade which engages in the wood. Progress of the piece is controlled by the male thread turned by the knob on the right.



As usual, Roger Rout came up with something a little different. It was a ball made up of 6 laminated panels, each of which had been turned inside and out, and then assembled with a selection of jigs into the shape we see. The offset stand is made of Yew.

The display was completed with a pair of bowls from Darren Breeze. First, a Cherry nibbles bowl, finished with spirit stains, lime wax, and oil. Good shape and texture. The second piece was a footed bowl made of rippled Sycamore, finished with black acrylic car paint and carved. Good finish inside, with interesting detail round the inside of the rim.





An AWGB Regional Newsletter From Brian Partridge

Hi folks, may I wish you all a Happy New Year full of successful club activities. Your Executive Committee are very excited about our acceptance as a Registered Charity if all our members who pay Income Tax will agree and sign to allow us to collect back the tax on some payments to the Association we hope that we will be able to fund even more things for our members. Please make this clear to your members and encourage them to sign when they get the request. Please make sure that you inform Paul our Data Manager and Membership secretary of any changes to your details on the database.

Watch out for more training workshops in this region during this year and please encourage your members to register their interest and requirements for such workshops. Remember, they are free to those who apply and are accepted. There is already one being planned to take place at Peter Childs in Essex this year watch for details in Revolutions and on the AWGB website. Please make sure that you apply in good time if you want a demonstration grant. The application form is on the website on the Documents page. The full amount available is £175.

This is International Seminar year so I hope to see a good number of members in this region taking advantage. Remember that there are one or two Bursaries available for which members may apply, these cover the full cost of the seminar.

The first major event in this region is the South East Woodworking Show at the Kent showground March 8th and 9th. I hope that I will meet up with a number of members there. There will be an AWGB stand there and once again, I have been invited by the organisers to have a stand of my own to demonstrate.

We hope that the progress being made with the facilities of the internet is proving to be useful to members. As webmaster I will be very interested in comments about the website and its value to members. It might be a good idea if you ask at club nights who does not have Internet access and if possible arrange that someone who lives close by will give help should they need any information on the AWGB site. Please let me know of any major demonstrations at your clubs if you would like them put on the events page of the website.

Remember that I am here to help, to authorise your grants, to solve problems, and generally give advice. I wish you all a Happy and successful Year and am looking forward to seeing as many as possible of you and your clubs during the year.

*Brian Partridge, AWGB South Eastern Regional representative and Webmaster
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A Grand Day Out With The Norfolk Wherry Trust



In September 2009 Bron and I joined the Norfolk Wherry Trust, a group of people dedicated to the preservation of the 'Albion' which at 114 years of age, is the oldest Wherry still sailing in Norfolk. If you go to www.wherryalbion.com you will be able to find out more, and see for yourself what is being done by all the volunteers.



In an effort to help the trust, I have volunteered to make souvenirs using genuine Albion Wherry Oak, and have been doing so since November 2009 when we went to the laying up supper, an annual event held at the end of the sailing season. I showed the trust members a selection of Oak pieces that could be made, and at the same time I raised some valuable funds for the trust. Mindful of the fact that I needed genuine timber to work with, one of the members said that there was some old timber lying around at the yard which I could take away if I wanted. The next morning, we went to the boat yard to see what could be found. Pictured here is an old "knee", taken out of the boat some 30 years ago, and since then it had simply been left to rot. I was not overly hopeful that this would yield much. But, after the surface moisture had dried off, I applied my chain saw to the top section, to reveal some wonderful medullary rays just a few millimetres below the surface in good strong timber. I was truly surprised to find wood of this quality in a rotting piece which has been ignored for the last 360 months and left in a



ditch. From the first knee section I managed to make a lot of pens and a dozen or so tea light candles. They were all delivered to the trust in February 2010, and it was really good to see people look upon woodturnings with such appreciation, after all, the pieces I left with them sold for about £100, and that was a really good contribution, directly to the trust.



YewTurn



Since then I have been able to accumulate quite a selection of Albion Oak and am now able to offer a significant selection of turned souvenirs for the trust to sell, having raised in excess of £2700 in 2011 and £1700 in 2012. There is a big difference in those figures, almost all of which is due to the fact that economical clocks and barometers are no longer available. When available, they do sell

very easily. The turnings I make are limited by a couple of crucial factors, a) they have to be made, in effect, for free, and b) they are made from oak boards measuring no more than 2" thick, and often less. Are you up for the challenge of helping us raise funds for the trust by doing a bit of turning. If so, let me know and we will work something out, after all, it is not often you get the offer of free wood with a genuine historical connection to work with.



During this coming year (2013) I would like to charter Albion for a day out, and at the same time, offer all members of the Norwich Woodturning Club (or anybody who happens to read this article) the chance to join us for a day on the river, sailing the oldest wherry still operating in Norfolk. In exchange for the charter fee you get the boat for a full day with an experienced crew to manage the boat. You are however, encouraged to

join in with sail hoisting, mast lowering, steering, etc., or you can spend the day just relaxing, watching the world drift by. It is a great day out. Last year we chartered the boat and were able to offer the day to friends and relatives for £30.00 each, and that is fully inclusive of tea, coffee, and lunch. If you would be interested in joining us for a day, please let me know. I go as crew and Bron goes as charter leader, so that leaves 11 places available to be filled by club members, wives, friends, etc.



Jon Simpson





Dust Is Bad For You

The following has been reproduced from WWW.PeterChild.Co.UK, by kind permission of Roy Child. There is a lot of useful and interesting information on the web site, so go and have a browse; you might just find it interesting.

Fine wood dust is a serious hazard, especially if you already have a respiratory problem. Even if you feel that dust does not bother you it can have a cumulative effect eventually resulting, if you are unlucky, in permanent damage to your health.

The problem for wood turners is that conventional dust extractors are not too good at taking dust away from the lathe. You can try putting the air intake of the extractor close behind the revolving wood, and if you have a really good airflow this will remove some of the dust.

A lot of dust will inevitably escape. Even a powerful extractor will leave some fine dust hanging around for you to breathe in. Try holding your finger close to the nozzle of a domestic vacuum cleaner. You can feel strong air movement. Then try holding your finger four inches away - do you feel much happening? Try hovering up some dust by holding the nozzle 4" off the floor and you will soon realize the extent of the problem.

The fine dust is the most dangerous and the most difficult to get rid of. The shavings and the large particles of dust are not much of a problem as most of it falls to the floor quickly and lungs have a built in mechanism which can eject relatively large particles. If you smoke, the little hairs inside your lungs which do the work may become damaged, so smokers are more vulnerable to wood dust.

Fine dust hangs about in the air, and if you breath it into the deepest parts of your lungs it can become trapped in there and cause all sorts of problems. The dust particles that cause damage are normally in the range of 0.2 to 5 microns in size (a micron is one thousandth of a millimetre). They are so small as to be invisible to the naked eye, and can remain suspended in the air for hours. Even if you cannot see any dust, the atmosphere may still be harming your lungs.

You are likely to breathe a cubic metre of air every hour of the day. If the dust in the air averages out to, say, 5mg per cubic metre (not un-common), and you have a long day at the lathe, you could actually take in about 50 mg of dust (2 ounces!!!). Most of this will be dealt with by the body's own dust defence mechanism - the nasal hair and the mucus lined walls of the airways leading to the lungs. You will, in fact, swallow most of it. Only a very tiny percentage of the dust is permanently trapped in the lungs but it is this which causes the damage.



Avoid carrying dust out of the workshop - leave your hat and overalls in the workshop - wash your hands and hair frequently

Dust from some wood can cause skin complaints such as dermatitis. Most species of wood including home grown timber can be harmful but some species (mainly tropical) are much worse. Avoid, if possible, Mansonia, Cherry Mahogany, Redwood, Beech, I roko, South American Boxwood, Western Red Cedar, and Satinwood.

To give only a few examples, Pine, Afrormosia, Mahogany, Boxwood, Chestnut, Cedar, Ebony, Rosewood, Beech, Ramin, Walnut, Larch, Spruce, Teak, Padauk, Yew, Cherry and Oak are all known to cause dermatitis, conjunctivitis, rhinitis and asthma. So be warned!

Safety goggles provide minimal eye protection, and do nothing to improve the air you breathe. A respirator like the Trend Airshield is quiet, takes up little space and gives you better lung protection than any dust extraction machine. The polycarbonate face shield will also give vital impact protection.

A dust and chips extractor will go a long way towards helping with the basic problem. It will help to keep your workshop clean and you can use it with its flexible hose to Hoover up the shavings and remove dust which has settled on surfaces. Because you have a woodturning lathe you can quickly turn up a wooden adaptor to accept the hose from your domestic vacuum cleaner to give you a handy extension hose. If you have other woodworking machines such as a table or band saw you can hook up the extractor to them also.

To eliminate the problem with the fine dust hanging around in the air you can use an air cleaner. These consist of a fairly quiet motor and fan with a fine filter which continuously removes fine suspended dust from the atmosphere. They can be left on with a timer after you have finished work and they will eventually leave you with a workshop full of nice clean air.

Other precautions which will help are:

- Minimize the sanding.
- Use sharp tools and develop your skills so that very little sanding has to be done.
- Power sanding is good at filling the air with dust, minimise the amount you do.
- Try using the wet sanding method which does not produce dust.
- Rough out bowls from green unseasoned wood. Wet wood does not produce dust.
- Wear a hat to keep dust out of your hair.

Jon Simpson



Ron Lansdell Deals With Dust



Since writing an article on my dust extractor system I have modified my set up to eliminate a few problems and adapt the system to give dust extraction for my band saw. I have found that by having the Record dust extractor drum adjacent to the lathe I was creating a problem of dust settling on the rim of the drum then being disturbed by the outlet air flow when switched on, giving perhaps more

dust in the air than was being extracted. I moved a small bench across the workshop with a backboard on it to form a partition across the room. I found this backboard a handy place to hang all my cutting tools plus things like chuck key, spanners & centres. I then bought additional 100mm dia. flexible & rigid pipes plus connectors (rigid pipe work is only available in 350mm long sections), a tee piece & jubilee clips from Screwfix for about £15.00 (If all parts were available in B&Q or Homebase they would have cost at least £50.00).

I passed the rigid pipe work through the end of the bench and attached flexible pipes to it with jubilee



clips. From Axminster tools I purchased two plastic blastgates to fit to the tee piece which in turn fitted to the dust extractor suction inlet so that I could get full suction to either the lathe or band saw. I then piped up to the band saw. It is important to firmly fix the flexible pipes to the spigots with jubilee clips. Whilst setting up I switched the extractor on not noticing the hose had slipped off the band saw. The end fixed itself to the side of the cabinet and sucked the drum across the workshop at high speed before I could turn it off. Note:- a short



length of 100mm rigid pipe is required between the tee piece, the extractor suction inlet, and the blastgates. The other modification I made to further stop dust being blown about, I cut a ring of hardboard out & fitted over the top of the drum to stop dust settling round the ring & also deflect the outlet air downwards. I found that the shutter in the plastic blastgate could drop down in use, so, with the shutter fully open I drilled a small hole through the shutter adjacent to the housing & passed a pin through. Metal Blastgates are available and are much heavier, but they do have a shutter retaining screw built in.

Ron Lansdell



Patriot Chuck For Sale

Bill Hudson Says: I have a Sorby Patriot chuck I wish to sell (insert version). I am looking for £85 for it. Reason for sale: I want to replace it with a direct M33 threaded chuck so as to remove the need for the excert convertor I need to use on my Vicmarc lathe.

I will bring the chuck to the February meeting.

Bill Hudson

More Tools For Sale

In the previous issue of this newsletter it was reported that unfortunately, Steve Arnott had passed away in early November after having suffered with cancer. His widow had asked Vic to sell his tools, many of which were at the club meeting on 4th January.

Vic still has a few tools for sale from Steve's workshop, as listed below. Please contact Vic if you are interested.

Axminster Dust extractor AWEDE2	£70
Elu Router MOF 96	£60
Black & Decker Mouse KA150K-GB	£10
JCB Jigsaw	£50
Set of carving Marples chisels (5)	£40
Black & Decker Crafter (mini sander & polisher)	£10
2 Black & Decker Electric Drills, 1 in a stand	£5 & £10

[Vic Cracknell, 01603 412394](mailto:vic@cracknell.co.uk)

Club Tools Available For Loan

Record DML305 Lathe	See Barry Mobbs
Woodcut Bowl Saver	}
Ashley I sles Unichaser	}
Robert Sorby Texturing Tool	} See Dave Wilcox
Axminster Reciprocal Carver	}
Record DX1000 Dust Extractor	}
Robert Sorby Eccentric Chuck	}
Record 6" grinder and Axminster sharpening system	} See Roger Groom





Forthcoming Events For Your 2013 Diary

Friday 1st February	Barry Mobbs Demonstrates Spindle Turning.
Friday 1st March	Tom Kittle - Program TBA.
Friday 5th April	2013 AGM.
Friday 7th June	Hands on night - show us what you are made of.
Saturday 22nd June	An All Day Demonstration From Richard Findley.
Friday 5th July	Nick Arnall On Sharpening And The Use Of The Skew.
Friday 4th October	The Ralph Jones Trophy - Competition Night.
Friday 6th December	Simon Hope - Program TBA.

A Demonstration Date for Mark Baker is awaited. May/Aug/Sept/Nov meetings all TBA.

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And Finally, Baby's First Visit To The Doctor

A woman and baby were at the doctor's for the baby's first examination. The doctor checked the baby's weight, and being a little concerned, he asked if the baby was breast or bottle fed. 'Breast-fed,' replied the woman. 'Well, OK, undress to the waist please' the doctor requested. She did as he asked. He pinched her nipples, pressed, kneaded, and rubbed both breasts for a while, carrying out a very proper, professional, and detailed examination. Motioning her to get dressed, the doctor said, 'No wonder this baby is underweight. You don't have any milk.'

'I know,' said the lady, 'I am his Grandmother, but, I am glad I came to see you today.'

Moral: Make sure you are fully informed prior to starting a job

