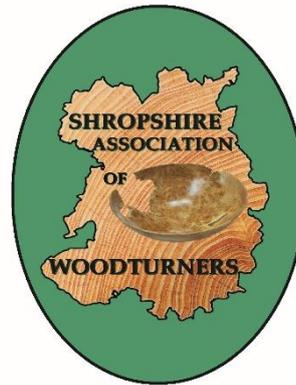


SAW –July 2020

Member's Magazine and Information
Covid 19 almost out of lockdown edition



Website: <http://www.shropshire-woodturners.org.uk/>

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SAW Committee

The SAW committee met (outdoors but under cover!) on 8th July and discussed future arrangements for meetings etc – hence the decision to try Zoom meetings. The committee had also been advised by Graham Patient that he is unable to continue as joint chairman. We are sad to lose such a capable and willing member but pleased that Ted Barber has agreed to act as Chairman (rather than joint chairman).

SAW's second ZOOM meeting - Wednesday 22nd July

Present (in alphabetical order)

Ted Barber, Julian Birch, Bill Clyne, Alan Davies, Carol Gibbons, John Gibbons, Nigel Goodricke, Teresa Goodricke, John Griffiths, Colin Maiden, Colin Mee, Cynthia Mee, John Pitt, George Powell and Andrew Thomson. Have I missed anyone??

“Demonstrations”

Two experienced turners were invited to prepare brief presentations on examples of their work. Andrew Thomson showed us his “Tulip” made from several three pointed petals, each one formed from a cunning curved section of a cube. He explained the use of a revolving centre and the formation of a spigot.

Bill Clyne showed us the yarn ball he had turned to keep his wife's wool tamed – including the challenge of cutting a curly groove for the wool – using a coping saw in the end - and inclusion of a cork insert to provide an antislip base. He then showed a handsome yew vase and yew goblet.

Workshop Tour

By way of an experiment, John Pitt offered a tour of his workshop and tools. A series of still photos with brief commentary worked well but we have yet to get videos working properly. There will be more workshop tours to follow.

Challenge

There was an excellent response to the challenge set in June to turn a goblet – with no constraints on size or shape...there were inspiring examples from Colin Mee, John Gibbons, Julian Birch, Andrew Thomson, Nigel Goodricke, Alan Davies, Ted Barber, Bill Clyne and John Pitt.

Next meeting and challenge – 26th August

There will be another SAW Zoom meeting on 26th August – again at 7:15 prompt...please come along again and encourage others to do so – perhaps offering help to newcomers to Zoom. The challenge, keeping it simple and flexible – is to turn a bowl – simple or fancy, large or small, deep or shallow... whatever you can do. No points or prizes but show it off or seek advice ...

Homemade tools

As advertised last time, here is a collection of tools made by members – either to save expense or because the right tool is not sold....can you work out which category the following are in?

a. Teresa's "little stubby thing that fits in the middle of a chuck with a small sanding disk on the other end for cleaning up the bottom of pieces"



b. Bill Cole's "picture of a chisel I made when I first started turning. It's made from the iron of a molding plane and is a little like a parting tool. I didn't know a lot about turning chisels when I made it. Good for a laugh, anyway!"

c. Julian Birch's "curved scraper I filed from a skew chisel I was not using. Works well as a scraper"



d. An obscure tool of Bernard Biddilph (I don't think it's for woodturning!)

Projects etc

In response to my request for examples of members' work, Julian Birch sent me a photo "the animals I have been turning for 'light relief' ". Friendly chaps aren't they?



And John Griffiths sent me photos of the 2018 Daventry Tudor show – there were nine altogether but they could be a little daunting as examples...

And now for something completely different

Hello Woodturners – Yes! It's me (Carol) – can't get rid of me that easily. Teresa has asked me to do a little piece on what I have been sewing over lockdown.

Near the start of lockdown, a friend of a friend was hoping to start a group to make scrub caps for the nurses in London. She has a friend who is a nurse tasked with training up nurses in intensive care procedures for the new Nightingale Hospital. The nurses and also some of the consultants were struggling to get fabric caps to protect their hair which would also protect their heads from some of the PPE masks and visors causing chafing.

So, our little band of sewists (we didn't like the term 'sewers'!) was formed and very soon other friends joined so that we had around 40 people, including a couple of men, scattered round the UK printing off patterns and raiding their stores of material. Soon after, parcels of caps of various colours and patterns were on their way to London. Over the last months we have supplied four major hospitals in London plus several more round the country including paediatric wards where Disney fabric went down well with the little patients who saw the staff wearing them.



Some of the Nurses

I raided my stocks of fabric and also asked neighbours for anything they had – either patterned fabric or even old sheets and pillowcases were passed along to me! Brilliant. Some of the members went on to sewing the full scrub suits. We also had an urgent request for lots of scrub bags as some of the hospitals did not offer laundry to the staff. They wanted cotton bags they could take their scrub suits home in and put straight into the washing machine. Ideal size is about a pillowcase and my lovely neighbour came up trumps with a pile of 36 pillowcases in various colours. Tops and flap chopped off and a channel sewn with a drawstring threaded through and there we have a pile of bags!



Caps on the line!

A rough count has been taken during all this sewing and as a joint effort we have done over 3 thousand caps and hundreds of bags and crocheted items. We are now making 5" squares be joined together like a patchwork quilt to make a wall hanging for St Georges Hospital in London.



Carol's 5" square

There have been lots of groups of 'home sewists' round the UK all doing their bit where they can to help the NHS, Doctors Surgeries and Care Homes. When you see all the work going on round the country with food bank volunteers, prescription deliverers, etc – I am glad that I have been able to contribute something to the 'war effort'.

John and I are fine, never enough hours in the day but we are so glad that we are self-isolating in such a beautiful county and have a great community round us where we all try to help each other. I hope you all keep well and maybe we will be back to our proper meetings next year.

Carol.

Calamity corner – episode 3

No offers this month from other members, so I feel obliged to publicise my latest disaster... a mega catch on my bowl (for the August challenge) and it was ripped from the chuck... I am hoping to rescue it by cleaning off the remains of the ring on the base and gluing on a new one..



Any Other business

Cynthia reminded us that the AWGB was still offering free demonstrations (via Youtube) on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays – details in the June Newsletter.

John Griffiths reported that Tim Roberts was a lot better – after suffering very seriously from Covid 19 and bronchitis. He is getting about a bit but still experiencing problems with breathing.

For sale and wanted

Workshop Lights Free To A Good Home:
Collect from Nigel - 01952 432295



Previous items for sale and wanted can be found in earlier Newsletters so please look there especially if you want a lathe...

And finally... for the August Newsletter

The usual appeal - please keep sending photos and stories of your woodturning adventures..

Nothing to show off?? Then please consider sharing your story of a *failed* project – as a contribution to Calamity Corner, episode 4.

And if you haven't been doing much turning during lockdown, then tell us what you have been up to anyway – preferably with a picture or two.

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