

SAW – September 2020



Member's Magazine and Information

Future SAW meetings

You will know from the news that we are in for a challenging winter. It is most unlikely that we can have normal meetings for several more months but the Zoom meetings are getting better as we learn the technology and the language – add “Unpin, speaker view” etc to your vocabulary.

SAW is now paying about £14 a month for Zoom Pro – so there is no break in the meeting and members only need to sign in at the start – please join the meeting again in October (details below) and spread the word.

Next meeting and challenge

The next SAW meeting will be a ZOOM on Wednesday 21st October at 7:15 prompt. Sign in details to be emailed nearer the time. **John Griffiths will talking about decorating and colouring.** A taste of what's to come is shown in the photos.



Challenge

The challenge to members for the October meeting is to turn a toy – preferably one that works but the brief is wide open again so just use your imagination and be ready to show and tell.

SAW's fourth ZOOM meeting

(Attended by 16 club members, apologies from 2)

Demonstration by Tim Roberts

A key feature for the meeting was a presentation on “segmental turning”. With a little (lots really) of technical wizardry, we managed both to see and to hear about some examples of Tim's remarkable pieces. He explained how he made and used jigs to cut compound angles on each piece and hand finished each by planing. Completed items were assembled from dozens (hundreds in the case of the urn!) of these accurately prepared pieces. Many of the items were made from “scrap wood”. Like a great artist able to imagine carving a statue from a chunk of marble, Tim seems to see a finished artwork in a packing case...

(Sorry, I didn't manage to capture any pictures from the demonstration but hope to include some next time).

Platters challenge

John Gibbons opened the bidding with a not-quite-finished platter. Carol is going to decorate it so we can look forward to seeing it then. He then showed a very elegant vase turned from laburnum – containing some very fresh looking bulrushes – needless to say he had turned these as well (silver birch I think!)



Bill Cole showed a lovely oak platter. He explains:

“The wood, I think, is oak. Two pieces 3" by 1" glued together to make a 6" diameter platter. The finish is carnauba wax, and I put in a burn line around the perimeter (not visible in the photo). The stains are from my wife's cheese scones, which were delicious!”



Next up was George Powell. He had turned these platters a while ago – one in sycamore, one from a burr and the other from that well known timber “tree wood”. Thanks George for these fine examples and for the effort of retrieving them to show us.



Julian Birch showed two beech platters – one with piecing, the other decorated with pyrography – and both lovely. He also sent a photo of his first foray into carving – this one in lime



Bill Clyne..The sound quality at the time was not good but I think Bill admits his segmental platter was a bit of a cheat – turned from gluelam worktop..but it wasn't easy as it required turning end grain.



John Pitt ventured back to yew for the first time in a year – so was pleased to have produced a nicely shaped platter. Never mind the slight ridges - no one's going to notice!

Nigel Goodricke showed an adventurous platter in Ash finished with Chestnut silver embellishing cream, royal blue spirit stain and Woodwax 22.



Cynthia Mee showed a 12" oak platter, finished in oil – both attractive and useful.

Colin Mee had turned a platter from a piece of alder that had been cut down a couple of years ago. He explained:

“The bark turned out to be thicker than expected and, by the time I had it turned down to something that I was happy with, there was not enough meat left for a spigot or a recess and, worse still, not enough left to remove the faceplate screw holes! For working on the top side, I ended up making a glue block with a 1/8" hole drilled in the centre. This allowed me to slide a piece of welding rod through it to locate in a centre mark on the



platter's back. I used hot glue, which held well but it needed a bit of help from the hot air gun to release it!
What glue do others use with glue blocks? "

(Have you noticed that Colin usually depends on a welding rod!)

Ted Barber would have produced an exquisite platterbut for the fact that his band saw broke! Excuses, excuses.

Teresa Goodricke showed her usual high standard with a 9" polished Sycamore plate/platter with coloured rim and a 12" Ash platter with a food safe finish so functional for meats and cheese.



Q&A

Teresa introduced the first Q&A session with the Question about effective use of screw chucks. Several members suggested Answers that may have been helpfulwe'll ask Teresa.

So if you have a woodturning related question bring it to our next Q&A section. Or perhaps you have some item in your workshop that isn't working for you - there will almost certainly be someone who can offer advice.

Workshop photo

A little while ago I requested information/photos of workshops to share with members. Derek Ingham kindly provided this photo of his workshop but I missed it last month – apologies to Derek. If you look carefully, you'll see some lovely items he's made as well as a distant view of the tools. And it's very tidy too!



Homemade tools

And in the last newsletter, I appealed for contributions to another "Homemade tools" article.

Bill Cole's contribution:

Here's one I made recently, having bought a pack of TCT bits on Ebay and the square one wouldn't fit the holder I have. I made the one below using a length of 3/8" steel rod and some wood I bought at the last meeting.



Well done Bill – a great idea for saving money and for designing exactly what you want!

I assume the rest of you only buy tools as that was the only response! But if you just forgot, then send me the pictures and the story and I'll include it next time.

August riddle

Colin Mee set the challenge to identify the tool shown on page 5 of the August newsletter. He explains that:

“The tool is a Welding Shoe to be used when welding thin steel. The copper blade is held against the back of the point being welded so that it conducts away excess heat and prevents holes being blown in the thin metal (I'm very good at blowing holes with my welder when I'm trying to repair rust holes in my Sprite!). Being copper, it will not (should not!) end up welded to the steel work-piece.”

No entries were received so the £5000 prize money stays in my pocket.

Can anyone help please?

Would anyone like to turn some ivory resin sticks to replace a broken interior door handle for a 1926 Rolls Royce (very interesting project).

Please contact Alan Harris - 01743 885153 for further details

Club Timber and blanks

As pictures in last month newsletter and we have quite a bit of club timber Cherry, Walnut, Alder and other odds and ends. This timber is all in Ironbridge for collection on receipt of a nominal fee to the club of around £10 per three pieces (1 small, 1 Med & 1 Large) If enough of you are interested we would be prepared to deliver to Bicton Hall car park or other agreed location by arrangement.

So if you are running short of wood please contact Nigel or Teresa Goodricke via the web page or call 01952 432295 as we would love some space in our log store and the club would of course like some funds.

And if anyone is running short of wood blanks, don't forget Paul (Oaklea Woodcraft) Ironbridge/Coalport. 01952 884064. He has a good stock at reasonable prices. Always good to support local.

Promoting SAW - Attingham Park

We have been approached by Attingham Park, National Trust to do an event there next year. This will not be a craft fair but an opportunity for SAW members to demonstrate their craft and show their skill over, probably, a 5 day period. Obviously, this going to take quite a lot of planning on our part, but a wonderful opportunity for us to promote SAW. We have no dates at present and I fear it may all be on hold for a while but hopefully it will happen. We've got to be optimistic!

For Sale

Lathe needs repair... contact John Gibbons for details. Free to anyone who wants to fix it. 01743872237



And finally, for the October newsletter

Ask yourself how you can contribute to the newsletter – and send me anything... please!

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