

# SAW – November 2021

Member's Magazine and Information



## Bicton again edition

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

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### Welcome back!

24 members (including one new member) and two guests attended the first face to face meeting since February 2020 - despite the rather formidable regulations set out by the Village Hall. It was a huge relief to welcome back so many and we hope that numbers at the November meeting will be just as good or even better.



### Autumn calendar update

Date	Meeting type	Notes
November 24th	Club meeting at Bicton	Provisional – details to follow mid November
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	AGM at Bicton and Chairman's Challenge	Provisional – details to follow mid November

### Meeting at Bicton 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021

#### Show and Tell



*Spheres, burrs and other bowls on display in October*



*More exquisite burrs from the chairman*

## **Demonstration by Steve Heeley**

Steve treated us to an entertaining and informative demo, showing how an essentially scrap piece of timber could be turned into a decorative and interesting bud vase.

He started with a section of 4 x 2 pine which had been pre-drilled and mounted on the lathe between centres. A tenon was machined for chuck mounting.

Once in the chuck, and supported by the tailstock, the basic shape was roughed out using a spindle gouge, crucially cut at high speed. Steve emphasised throughout how essential it is to use high speed, and demonstrated the difference in finish when utilising modest speed.



Steve now textured the flat surfaces using a small Arbortech cutter, emphasising the need for concentration and awareness of workshop safety. After denibbing, red acrylic paint was dabbed on, and once dry a top coat of black. He explained he does not use spirit paints for this application because of its tendency to bleed into end grain. Again once dry, the paint was sanded back to reveal the attractive effect.

The finishing cuts were then made to the shoulders and top, being careful to avoid vibrations from the now unsupported neck. The vase opening was enlarged by plunging a spindle gouge thus cutting with the grain. Three buttons were machine from boxwood stock and pressed into pre-prepared holes.

It only remained to remove the chucking tenon. Steve turned a jam chuck to suit the outside of the neck, then carefully machined off the tenon adding a detail to the underside.

Steve certainly demonstrated how an unpromising piece of scrap pine can be made into an attractive conversation piece.



*Steve Heeley asked that his thanks be passed back to the club for their interest and attention at his recent demonstration. He says he and his friend Phil really enjoyed the night but most of all the company. In his opinion there are 2 fantastic clubs, SAW is one of them, they are clubs where he feels comfortable, they show interest and are a good bunch of people.*

**Report by Bill Clyne**

## Club challenge for November

Anything made during lockdown – whether or not they were displayed at a Zoom meeting OR “Any item turned in the month of November “ – this is just to get you back on the lathe!

## From the archives

Teresa, our dedicated club secretary, has started the process of delving into the history of SAW – as discussed briefly at the September Zoom meeting.

“It was early 2020 when I became the latest custodian of Shropshire Association of Woodturners newsletters and committee minutes etc, they date from the very beginning of the club in 1992. In January 2020 I remember thinking that some items from the old newsletters would make interesting reading in our current newsletter. However, COVID-19 came along and the idea was forgotten and the old newsletters and papers stored, but last night at the Zoom meeting the conversation got round to the beginnings of the club. So, all the old files are now on our kitchen table and the odd spider chased away. It is fascinating delving into the files and discovering that the inaugural meeting of the club was held on 26 November, 1992 at the Wingfield Arms, Montford Bridge. It was attended by “thirty five persons interested in, and practising the craft of woodturning”. Some of those early members of our club are still members today - George Powell, Lofty Marshall, Torstein Nodland and Brian Tunks, that I know of, apologies to those that I haven’t mentioned but please let me know if I have missed you.

“There are some very interesting articles in many of the newsletters so I shall try to include some occasionally. Here is one little snippet that amused me but may be insensitive or offensive to some now - apologies.

From March 1994

A member needs to do some turning in bone for a restoration project. Advice is needed on preparing bone for turning, is it boiled, baked turned dry or softened. What sort of bone is best? Large beef bones is my guess, but what do members have to say. Answers in the next edition.

I can find no answers in the next edition so perhaps the restoration project is still waiting. I can’t help wondering if it was a wind-up.

“I also found in the archives that George Powell was Secretary for quite some time. And I found at some time that George was trying to organise a trip to, I think, the Netherlands, possibly a town twinned with Shrewsbury? I believe to visit another woodturning group - not sure it happened. They also visited Ockenden Timber, sawmill, 2/3 times. So perhaps you could chat to him next month.

**Please** send in any more recollections of the early days of the club or stories about the club before say 2010

## Calamity Corner – “Double Trouble”

Colin Mee has contributed this latest entry to Calamity Corner.

“I managed to spend a bit of time at the lathe today and created an offering for Catastrophe Corner in the newsletter.

What happens when you go a touch too thin. First I got a catch that knocked a hole through and then I discovered that the mortice was deeper than I thought!

And it was so nearly finished!”



## AWGB Virtual Seminar 13&14<sup>th</sup> Nov

See October newsletter for details

### For sale

A local man wishes to sell:

- Small Axminster lathe
- Assorted tools, to suit lathe
- Assorted wood blanks

Price: £350 the lot

If you are interested, or wish to view these items please contact Teresa for further information.

### And finally, for the next newsletter “December 2021”

It’s **your** club – and it would be **so** good if some other club members contributed something! Anything on the usual list would be welcome – more history, a “Calamity Corner” experience, a joke, photos of your workshop etc.

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