

# SAW – March 2021

Member's Magazine and Information

## Covid Anniversary edition



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

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### Countdown to real meetings?

Last year's March newsletter was the first "Covid special". A year has gone and we are still thriving!

We don't want to raise our hopes too soon but the news on Covid looks a lot brighter than even a month ago. If the key indicators on the spread of Covid continue to fall, we should be "back to normal" in the Autumn and, if vaccination passports are approved, maybe a little sooner. ...

### March meeting

The next meeting will be on Zoom on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7:15 prompt. As usual, sign-in details will be circulated nearer the time. If you need help, just "phone a friend" or contact Teresa Goodricke or John Pitt.

### March challenge

The challenge for the Show and Tell in March was announced in February – but, in case you missed it, you are invited to show either a "piece of fruit" OR something inspired by Sue Harker's demonstration. Or both of course..

### SAW's eighth ZOOM meeting on Wednesday 24th February

#### Demonstration by Sue Harker

This professional demonstration was attended by 38 members – about 24 from SAW and another 14 from the Black Country woodturning club. It was great to see two new SAW members.

Sue Harker is based in Yorkshire so was unlikely to have been able to travel to Shrewsbury for a classic live demonstration (remember those?) – definitely a silver lining to the Covid cloud.

Her topic for this demo was Inside out turning – resulting in a piece that looks impossible – shaped on the inside of a hollow as well as outside. Here's the finished piece

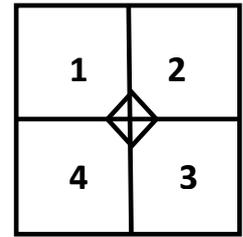
Read on to see how she did it...



1. Select a piece of Ash about 8.5 x 2.5 x 2.5 (that's 215x63x63 mm- proper units?). Plane it absolutely square and cut into four lengths.

**A. Turning the central section of the outside shape**

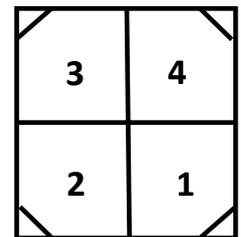
2. Arrange the pieces so the planed surfaces are together.  
3. Label the pieces, adding a diagonal mark at the centre, and glue along the central section - with newspaper between the glued surfaces - and bind the end sections tight with gaffer tape.



4. Mount between steb centres (to avoid splitting the sections open) and turn a spigot at the bottom end. Then shape the central section using a roughing gouge and the top (narrower) section with a ½" fingernail profile spindle gouge. (Lathe speed up to about 1800 rpm). Sand and finish what will be part of the *outside* shape.

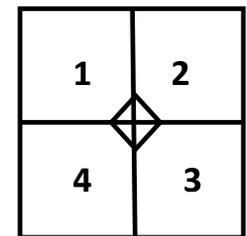
**B. Turning the inside shape**

5. Remove the piece from the lathe and carefully break it apart into its four pieces. A knife tapped carefully into the joints reduces the chance of snapping any of the four component pieces.  
6. Re-arrange the pieces so that the diagonal marks are as shown and, this time, glue the end sections together, again with newspaper to allow the pieces to be split again. A jig to support the pieces as the glue sets ensures accuracy.  
7. Turn the inside shape - taking care as the sections become thinner and more delicate  
8. Create a small chip at what will be the base end, at the shape transition, which when re-glued will form a small hole for the internal finial.



**C. Turning the outside of the end sections**

9. Break the four sections apart again and turn each section to be the same as the first time, i.e. the diagonal marks back in the centre. Glue up the parts (no newspaper now).  
10. Mount between steb centres again and turn a tenon on the base end.  
11. Mount in the chuck  
12. At the top, turn the candle holder shape with a 7/8" recess and form the decorative bead.  
13. At the bottom turn a decorative bead and a 7/8" tenon to fit into the base.  
14. Part off



**D. Make the base:**

15. Drill a hole in a new square bowl blank as a recess to mount in the chuck  
16. Mount in the chuck and shape the base.  
17. Use a forstner bit to drill a 7/8" mortise to take the tenon on the base of the main piece  
18. Make a jam chuck to hold the base by the mortise and hence remove the chuck recess.

**E. Turn and fit the finial**

19. Select a suitable piece of contrasting wood to form the finial and turn to a teardrop shape.  
20. Use different sizes of drill bit to gauge the size of the hole for the finial and refine the end of the finial to suit.  
21. Fit the finial

**F. Sand and finish.**

Throughout Sue emphasised the need to precision and care in turning – avoiding chipping the wood or rounding edges.



## Large Waterlily Bowls - as shown by John Gibbons in the January Show and tell

John made the first one around 2 years ago. Some of you will have seen it at the club or on display at one of our (last!) outside events. It is turned from the trunk section of a large piece of Monkey Puzzle Tree (it is now classed as an endangered species). The club had several large pieces of trunk donated after it had to be felled. We made several trips with a trailer to a lodge on the perimeter of Weston Park where it was stored in the garden. It was transhipped with a lot of hard work to the bottom of our garden where it was painted on the 'cut' edges with watered down PVA glue and then stored on pallets and covered with tarpaulins to dry gradually. Over time several members have had some of the pieces although others may find it is too big to handle!

So, John made the first bowl trying to show the beautiful patterns where the branches had grown from the trunks to their best advantage. The deep bowl that he made looked beautiful. We then decided the six 'branch' patterns would look good shown as the petals of a flower and a waterlily shape was then marked out, cut with a fretsaw and the finished with some carving to outline where the petals overlapped and a lot of careful sanding. John then finished it with sanding sealer and then wax.

The second one has come about as a neighbour saw the first one a little while ago and has recently asked John if he could make another as a present for her son who is moving house. The piece of Monkey puzzle John searched out from the wood still stored at the bottom of the garden proved to be slightly bigger than the first one. This is what has been keeping him occupied off and on over the Christmas period and most of January. It has turned out as good as the first and is slightly bigger. John also left the 'petals' thicker on this one and it certainly feels like a substantial bowl when held!

For anyone interested in the actual dimensions the first one is 20.5cms high, 18cms wide at the top and 25cms at its widest part. The petals are 4mm thick at the top and 18mm thick appx halfway down.

The second one is 22,5cm high, 19cm wide at the top and 27cms at its widest point. The petals are 5mm at the top and 25mm around half way down. Although only 2cm bigger either way, overall it looks to be quite a lot bigger!!! We just hope our neighbour likes it now!

The other large piece of Monkey Puzzle he has turned was done around 14 months ago. Again, for a friend who wanted a present for her in-laws. It was much wider than the 'waterlily' bowls but shallow – very heavy and with a slight 'pedestal' base. The branch patterns on the inside of the bowl showed as beautiful ovals and when our friend took it home, her husband said they had to keep it so another Xmas present for the in-laws had to be bought! Turning a huge heavy piece of wood has its own perils. John took the worst of the waste wood off down the garden with the piece on his sawhorse with his chainsaw and then, when more manageable, fixed it to a faceplate ring and onto his chuck so he could swing it round and again, with the chainsaw, get it to a rough shape before starting to turn. With such a large piece he says you must make sure it is very well-balanced before turning otherwise there will be too much vibration, then starting off very slowly. If anyone has any questions about turning BIG chunks of wood, he will be happy to have a chat if it will help.



Carol Gibbons

## Membership subscriptions

If you didn't pay last year, Alan Davies will be chasing you to pay this year.... Better still, contact him first at [Alan.ddavies@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:Alan.ddavies@blueyonder.co.uk)

## Outlet for your turned items

Graham Patient has been supplying market stalls at Country Markets in Shrewsbury and Oswestry with simple turned items, spurtles, egg cups, bowls etc. He is leaving the area but the stall holders would be interested/keen for someone to continue the supply. He has provided the following contacts for anyone else wanting to sell this way:

Shrewsbury Indoor Market: [triciajones78@btinternet.com](mailto:triciajones78@btinternet.com)

Oswestry: [gillianfynes@btinternet.com](mailto:gillianfynes@btinternet.com)

## For sale and wanted

After my second lathe upgrade last year I have the following for sale:

With 1" x 8 TPI thread:

- Axminster SK80 chuck (3 years old) £60
- 75mm faceplate £10

With ¾" x 16 TPI thread

- 50mm faceplate £5
- 100mm faceplate £8
- Screw chuck £10

1" x 8TPI to ¾" 16TPI adaptor £10

300mm tool rest 16mm stem £5



John Pitt 07783959711



## Zoom quality

Please note the points raised in the last meeting about improving the quality of the sound and of the pictures:

- Try using screen share to show your pictures – or send them to me to display on the night. They will also go in the Newsletter
- Please use the mute control except when making a contribution. It's so much clearer when we don't have extraneous sounds like the TV in the background (mind you, there's a lot worse than that). You wouldn't leave the door open when you have a bath so why leave the sound on when ....
- Try adjusting your picture for lighting and size before you join the meeting – it's like "adjusting your dress" before you come out of the bathroom...

## And finally, for the next newsletter "April 2021"

If you can't send a photo or two of your entry to the March Show and Tell before the meeting, you can still send it after and it will go in the Newsletter

[johnpitt14@btinternet.com](mailto:johnpitt14@btinternet.com)

