

CHISEL & GROOVE



Volume 1, Issue 1

3rd April 2008

DAVE WILCOX WOODTURNING

Newsletter Launch

Welcome to the launch of the new Dave Wilcox Woodturning newsletter entitled 'Chisel & Groove'. My aim is to publish a newsletter on a twice yearly basis so as not to pester people too much. I am using my contacts database for the initial circulation so if you do not wish to receive any further copies please email me and let me know. (dave@dave-wilcox.com). Likewise if you have friends who are interested then get them to email me for inclusion in the list.

What have I to offer? Basically I will have a go at turning anything as you can see from my website. (<http://dave-wilcox.com/>).

It is difficult to work out exactly

what people want so unless I have a request from a customer I will turn whatever takes my fancy on the day. This is usually dictated to me by the wood. A lot of turners say that you should dictate to the wood what you want to turn. Although I have only been turning a couple of years I disagree with this and feel that each piece of wood has its own unique character which comes out in the turning and dictates to the turner its own limits. My view, and I accept and work to it.

If you have a piece you would like turned please get in touch, email or phone (+447813 161256). If I don't answer it is probably that I haven't heard the phone, don't be shy leave a voicemail I will get back to you



A nice little English Yew Vase made from a piece of green wood. See the matching Yew Box (80mm dia x 133mm h). Made 2008.

as soon as I can.

I hope you like the newsletter. Thank you for taking the time to read it.

Dave

West Midlands Woodturners

The West Midlands Woodturners is a group of enthusiasts, of which I am one, that meet approximately once every 5-6 weeks. At the meetings we either have a professional turner come along and show us some of the tricks & tips that they

have learnt over the years or we have a Club hands-on day. Both meetings are excellent value and usually well attended.

If you have always wanted to have a go at woodturning but not known where to start or who

to ask, come along to a couple of meetings as a guest and have a look or even a go at turning.

Check the Club website for meeting details. (<http://www.wmwoodturners.org.uk/>).

Inside this issue:

Wood Toxins & Effects	2
A Good Book or Three	2
Filling With Metal and Semi Precious Stones	2
Green Ash Available	3
Off Centre Turning	3
Web Links	3
Say No To 0870	4

Wood Toxins and Effects



A little English Yew Box made from the same section as the matching Vase. (78mm dia x 45mm h). Made 2008.

This is of major concern to most turners, if it is not it should be.

I would expect everyone to have taken precautions to prevent adverse health issues, even then you can still suffer effects as I usually do. Suffering with acute Hayfever perhaps this should not be my hobby some would say, but why let anything stop you from doing what you want to?

Being informed is part of the solution as in every

walk of life. I did a lot of digging for information on toxin effects from wood, dust, sap, leaves etc. Eventually I compiled a list from various sources, it is by no means complete and is being added to all the time. If you have information that isn't there let me know and I will include it.

Where is 'There'? Okay the full list is on my website (<http://dave-wilcox.com/>) It is in the

Woodturning section under 'Wood Toxins and Effects'. I now tend to check the effects of the wood I have in stock so that if I have any ill effect I can recognize it and its cause immediately, usually popping an anti-histamine solves most of my ills, if not a nice cold lager tends to move some of the dust from the throat. On the lungs a couple of days coughing. Live with it, that's life! Enjoy your hobby.

A Good Book or Three

**“Live with it
that's life!
Enjoy your
hobby.”**

If you are a turner I know from my own experience if you are trying to identify a piece of wood and ask around you get as many different types as you ask. I have come across what I think is an excellent book for trying to identify woods, it is entitled "Wood Identification & Use, Revised and Expanded" It is by Terry Porter, mine is hardbacked and published by The Guild of Master

Craftsman Publications and was \$30 US when I purchased it. Worth every cent I think. (<http://www.gmcbooks.com>).

My second choice is "Shapes for Woodturners" by Dave Weldon. This is out of print I believe. It was recommended to me by Kevin from Earlswood Interiors, and has a compilation of source shapes for you to work from when you get

that mind block. Marked at £15.00 UK. Check out Amazon got mine for £6 plus P+P I think it was. Published by Batsford.

Thirdly another shapes book, but this time in colour pictures, "Woodturning. A Source Book of Shapes" by John Hunnex. Published by Guild of Master Craftsman Publications Ltd. A lot of ideas to start from. Not sure of the price.

Filling With Metal & Semi Precious Stones



A sycamore Bowl with inlaid copper on the rim. A striking contrast. (178mm dia x 49mm h). Made 2007.

Filling with metals and semi-precious stones is a realm that I am currently venturing into.

You can buy powdered copper, aluminium and brass from eBay at reasonable prices, but where do you get coloured stone?

At the moment the only place I can find is China, the product is reasonably

priced but the postage is extortionate, so I have to buy in quantity.

If you check my website again, in the stones section you will see I currently have strings of blue stones for sale. I don't know any names as they only deal in item numbers as you can see in the catalogue section.

I have done a lot of dig-

ging around the web regarding this and I can say hand on heart the cheapest I found was eBay. I am considerably cheaper than anyone on there as I am not looking to turn over a great profit.

Interested drop me a line or give me a call.

Green Ash Available

I have a friend who has recently had an Ash tree felled.

It has cost him considerably to have this felled and he is looking to recoup some of the money. He has a fairly large quantity of different diameters and lengths available and I am sure he is open to negotiation on price.

For your information the wood is sited in Alvechurch so nice and local

to most. If you are interested drop me an email with contact details and I will get him to give you a ring.

This brings me to another point, if you have wood available free or at a price let me know and I can circulate it and hopefully help you to move it on.

I would ask you to bear in mind most greenwood is either free or cheap as it has not had any work

done to it in seasoning or preparation. If you are looking for big money this is not the place for you to ask as the circulation is hobbyists and available funds reflect this, I know mine do anyway.



"I'm a lumberjack but I'm okay....."

Off Centre Turning

I have, again on my website, a template and method for turning multi-sided platters, so long as you follow the instructions you too can turn for instance a triangular plate. Very striking and unusual and always a talking point. Don't select too many sides as it will look rounder the more you go.

If anyone has a technique that they can ex-

plain and/or illustrate and you have no objections to my using your work as an example please feel free to contact me with details, preferably by email and let me know. This applies to all manner of turning, let us share and pass on the techniques we've learnt through sweat and tears so others may benefit.

Web Links

I have a section for Woodturning links on my website and am offering to put on site links for fellow woodturners all I would ask is a reciprocal arrangement.

Whilst on the subject of Turners, their sites and links, I have recently come across a site which has obviously had a lot of hard work done in the

compilation and presentation of a link for all known turners. Visit: <http://www.laymarcrafts.co.uk/indexmodified.htm> This is a good site with a lot of hidden gems, a round of applause please for Richard & Sheila Stapley, its authors.

I have also found online another site reference

the earlier story regarding wood identification, this site uses pictures of the wood grain, colouring to very good effect. Visit: <http://hobbitouseinc.com/personal/woodpics/>



A three sided Sycamore Bowl. Turned off centre. (215mm dia x 30mm h). Made 2007.

"I'm a
lumberjack but
I'm okay....."

DAVE WILCOX WOODTURNING

6 Withybrook Road
 Shirley
 Solihull
 West Midlands. B90 2RZ
 Phone: +441217452423
 Mobile: +447813161256
 Email: dave@dave-wilcox.com



I am a hobbyist who turns for pure enjoyment. I love to help and see others enjoying the same hobby and am always willing to offer help and advice if I have it. If I don't have it I am sure I can find someone who has. I turn anything that takes my fancy or requested by third parties, and will sell at reasonable prices to anyone interested, World-wide. Don't forget post and packing will need to be added

If you have questions re turning then email me and they can be incorporated into the next newsletter, if you have a question you can bet someone else has the same question, so don't be shy ASK!

I hope you liked the first newsletter for Dave Wilcox Woodturning.

We're on the Web!

<http://www.dave-wilcox.com/>

Say NO to 0870 and charged calls

Say NO!

As a total aside it seems to be more prevalent by the day that companies get you to pay to phone them and then sit on hold for ever and a day at your expense. They must be raking it in. Now is the time to say no more.

When you get one of the 0870 numbers or other charged num-

ber go to <http://www.saynoto0870.com/> click on the search to find alternative number on the top left green banner and see if there is any alternatives you can try before the payment option. They have alternatives listed for 0800, 0808, 0844, 0845, 0870 and 0871 numbers. Funny thing is how these companies always manage to answer the 0800 number almost immediately yet the same office leaves you waiting for ages. The worst I have come across for this so far in my experience is Virgin, you are given a number to phone to organize a disconnection of broadband. I phoned it 4 times and was kept on their computer ansafone for 1/2 hr each time. I was also forced to listen to ob-

noxious sounds they said was music which was very loud, obviously designed to drive you away and thereby preventing cancellation. I dug around, found this site and an associated 0800 number. Tried it, it was answered immediately, I assume as they are paying for it, and my cancellation organized. Out of order Virgin.

Bookmark it ! This site will save you a load of time and grief.