

# CHISEL & GROOVE



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## DAVE WILCOX WOODTURNING

### Editor's Waffle

It seems in most magazines and newsletters that the Editor has a space for his own wafflings and rantings. I sat and thought how can I do that when I have the whole newsletter? After numerous ponderings (code for 'cans of Carling') I decided I can for that very reason. Anyway decision made I then came upon the next problem, I don't have loads of people running around generating articles for me, where do I find the content? I am still working on this one and hoping I can get a few others interested in generating something for the newsletter. Fingers crossed watch out for bylines.

So what have I found this time? Whilst on one of my trips around the net looking for ideas

associated with woodturning I came across a video on a site which showed a gent who had built himself an Ornamental Lathe or Rose Engine Lathe. I had not heard or seen one of these beasts and was immediately intrigued. As some will know my other love is Computing and with the evolution of the internet the World is literally your oyster. I did numerous searches relating to Rose Engine Lathes and eventually came across a site by Jack Chick offering plans and help to build your own Rose Engine. A quick registration and download and I now have the plans and a project. (For those who are also interested, the link to Jack's site can be found on my website in the Woodturning Links section.



Sumach Vase — An unusually striking wood, Freshly cut and made into a vase. (75mm dia x 162mm h). Made 2008.

I was proposing two newsletters a year but several people said it should be quarterly so I will see if I can find sufficient content as I go but Four it is for now.

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/>).

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## Segmented Turning



A nicely contrasting piece of Bubinga turned into an octagonal bowl. (180mm dia x 37mm h). Made 2008.

This aspect of turning seemed very subdued when I first heard of it but suddenly seems to have hit the forefront again. Everywhere you go it seems someone is venturing into this realm. Again a new aspect to me so it caught my attention. Back to the web looking for the way to do it and any tips or examples I could have a go at. Loads out there but by far the best link I found was <http://www.segmentedturning.com/>. There are several sites around that offer programs to aid in planning and cutting your segments but to me this was the best presented. I took the plunge and purchased my registration. I am now trying to design a turning of some sort that uses the woods I have in stock. Not an easy thing this Design World. The problem with this type of program is that it gives you an idea of what the finished item should look like. Hence I

am still in the design stage and will probably remain so for some time as I hate to waste wood. Keep an eye on the side pictures you may one day see a piece of my segmented work.

Joking aside a nice program and some beautiful results from its customers can be seen on the site and associated forum.

## Earlswood Interiors

**"If e ain't got it e says e can get it."**

After the demise of Chris Barker Woodturning at Middleton Hall our main local supplier of everything woodturning would seem to be Kevin Green at Earlswood Interiors just at the back of the Lakes.

Kevin has just recently remodeled his shop which is now almost taken over with Woodturning blanks, tools, finishes, kits etc.

It is also proposed that a lathe will be set up in the shop for demonstration purposes.

If you visit their website at <http://www.earlswoodinteriors.co.uk/index.asp> you can order online if you so desire.

Also on offer is a subscription membership entitling members to 10% discount on purchases and a quarterly

newsletter giving details of all the latest offers.

Deserving of our support and most times the ride out is better than waiting for the post, go for a walk around the lakes or visit the Red Lion for a lunch break. Make a day of it well worth the effort.

## Woodex. April 2008.



Sumach Bowl — Cut from the same piece as the vase. A really nice patterning. (160mm x 60mm h). Made 2008.

I have to admit, this is the first time I have been to Woodex. I was impressed. Talking to the traders and the demonstrators I think it was universally agreed that this was by far the best attendance they have had to date. I assume the word is getting around. The added bonus is FREE ENTRY. I can only hope that oth-

ers will follow this example. 10 out of 10 Woodex I will be recommending the October Show to everyone I know.

There were lots of good deals available as well if you had a mooch around and were willing to talk to the sellers.

Several Demonstrators were there passing on their hard earned knowl-

edge, Several Carving and Turning Clubs had stalls. Embroidered Smocks from Lovell Workwear. Berton Craft Turnery with their Versa-tool. Aircap dust masks had offers on their Aircap2 system. It was possible to spend a fortune. An excellent show.

## Demise of English Industry

I imagined I would be able to source the required bits and pieces to build my Rose Engine Lathe with little problem, what an eye opener!

I only want odd numbers of bolts, washers, nuts, wing nuts and Knobs, you used to be able to go to your local ironmongers and they would have the lot, and in the quantities you wanted. Problem—all your local ironmongers have been replaced by B&Q's and

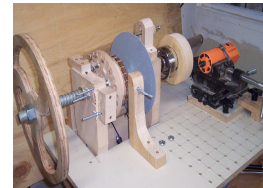
the like. They appear to have little idea of what you want, and if they don't stock it, you ain't havin' it. If they do you buy in set quantity packs. Specialist items like a compression spring with 1" internal diameter, ah that's a special order and will cost extra!!! That's when you can find a company that still exists to make them.

Another requirement, a router, with no silly

moulded housings, I want one that looks like a big Dremel. I eventually found one made by Trend or Bosch, again a major task to track down.

My conclusion was the successive Governments of this Country have an awful lot to answer for in the demise of English Industry and the small shop approach, and we will all suffer as a result of this.

Come the revolution.....



A picture of Jack Chicks Rose Engine Lathe.

## Woodturners of the World

As some of you will know I have added a new page to my website, Woodturners of the World. I am hoping that once the name is circulated it will get a lot of Worldwide attention.

Basically it is a map whereby you can stick a pin with your brief details and location, link to your website etc.

I have already entered my own and the West

Midlands Woodturners pins and ask that anyone interested will also add theirs. If nothing else look at it as a bit of free advertising.

You can choose a coloured pin to represent either a Turner, a wana-bee turner, a Club, or a Company. I hope the idea takes off but at the end of the day that is down to you and all other turners in the World.

Go on be a devil and be one of the first to stick you pin.

**A bit of FREE advertising.....**

## The Dave Wilcox Forums and DW Sweats

Another couple of new area to my website,. Firstly the Forums, these have been set up to include both interests served by my site, Woodturning and Wilcox Genealogy. It has a dedicated area solely for use of The West Midlands Woodturners registered members., the rest of the areas are a free for all. I have not set any hard or

fast rules for the forums, I will treat everyone as an adult until proven otherwise. At the current time whilst I am getting everything sorted out security wise I am the only moderator, as things progress I may entertain appointments for the groups as we expand. Watch this space.

The second new area is DW Sweats, a 'T' shirt, hoodie etc shop. I am open to suggestions for designs, if you have your own logo, club badge or whatever I can convert the graphic to a suitable format at a very reasonable price. It does take a fair bit of work getting them suitable for use, and keeping the design aspect right.



A nicely grained green-wood Sycamore Vase. (150mm dia x 158mm h). Made 2008.

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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. You could always look in the Forums now.

Well this is the end of the second edition of this Newsletter, I hope you found something inside which caught your imagination or gave pause for thought.

I hope you like this newsletter idea for Dave Wilcox Woodturning. Any comments or suggestions or articles for consideration please feel free to email me.

**We're on the Web!**

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

**Say NO to 0870 and charged calls**

Say NO!

No apologies for leaving this in . I think it is important for people to dig their heels in with these big companies especially in light of the recent enormous profits they all seem to be announcing.

When you get one of the 0870 numbers or other charged number 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 obnoxious 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.