

CHISEL & GROOVE



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DAVE WILCOX WOODTURNING

Editor's Waffle

Well that Quarter went too quickly with not a lot to show for it, mind you all that rain and the gardens have recovered well. As you walk around the countryside it appears the extra rain has helped some of the trees to recover with them putting on a lot more growth. On the downside there are still a large number of tree skeletons about and more and more of our native trees appear to be dying off and none of the landowners seem to be planting replacements, what happened to land management?

As for the disease that is killing the trees I was told that it was one that came from the Rhododendrons, another story says that it is due to climate change, don't know if this is correct but if

it is it needs all the dead and dying trees out to prevent the spread of disease and new young hardy stock to replace them.

On a happier note I attended a demonstration by Joey Richardson, initially not my area but a very good demo and a lot of ideas to ponder on so I may be having a dabble soon. One good aspect that she pointed out was that over the Pond Wood Crafts are high on the ladder and prices reflect this with items being classed as Art. Joey and others within the AWGB are attempting to promote the Craft to the same level over here, with a lot of behind the scenes work being carried out by all concerned. So if you are called upon to give your



A piece by Joey Richardson entitled Devotion. The rest of her work can be seen at her [website](#)

help for any of the projects they come up with please do not be shy. In the end it will hopefully benefit us all, whether we like the 'Art' or not.

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 [WMWT Club website](#) for meeting details.

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Updates



One of my attempts at piercing work. Pierced yet functional, a compromise between functional or decorative, it works for me.

Last issue I mentioned a few things mainly connected with my website which I can update you on now they have been running a couple of months.

The Forum. This was designed for the use by members of the W.M.W.T. and has overall been taken to better than I expected. It is currently only the W.M.W.T. section that is getting used, I have to say I did really expect

this as the open area is already filled by the A.W.G.B. Forum. We currently have 16 members enrolled in the private area of the Forum, a lot of whom appear to be a little shy of writing so come on get involved have a go, put up some message topics or answer to others, the forum is what you make of it. Nuff said.

My Woodturners of the World Map had started better than expected. It h

Platial Mapping, same thing different source. This is still beta and still quirky but getting used more by AWGB members than WMWT members as yet I'm sorry to say.

Internet Explorer 8 is due soon and websites need to be checked for compatibility, as a result I have changed the menu structure on [mine](#), make sure you check yours.

Upcoming Shows

Kids will be kids. So will some of the show organisers it seems....

I have decided the people that run these shows are worse than my kids ever were. To prove the point we have two shows in October just up the road from each other. The first is the New Midlands Woodworking & Woodturning Exhibition (Woodex) at the Warwick Exhibition Centre 4th & 5th October Free Entry.

The second is The New Midland Woodworking &

Power Tool Show at Stoneleigh 10th to 12th October £7.50 entry.

If they were to act like the grown ups they purport to be we could have had two shows where we the woodturners could have gained the benefit of such. As it is most of us have to decide which show we will go to and forget the other. Everyone loses.

So to the organizers of

these shows, I don't care which was first, get your act together and work for the benefit of the craft, trying to outdo each other in the current financial climate will end up as suicide for one if not both of you.

So from the turners of the World—Act your age not your shoe size. That's without mentioning Harrogate!

Christmas is closing in.



Christmas ornaments. The season fast approaches so get the old bits of wood out and turn the ornaments, get the kids to colour/paint them.

Frightening as it is why not get the old odd bits of wood out and get turning some Christmas Ornaments. You can make anything that you put your mind and chisel too, tree's, snowmen, angels it doesn't really matter.

Once made colour one then leave them for the kids or grand kids to colour, they beat the

socks off most of these new ornaments on sale, are a lot cheaper and the kids will enjoy it and have something to show their kids as they will last forever.

If you have any left over let the W.M.W.T. have them to put on the stall for the School Christmas Fayre, all donations will be gratefully accepted

and under the new rules laid out by the Chairman some of the proceeds will be going towards the club. Everyone will benefit so get turning..

As this is the newsletter before Christmas I will give the first seasons greetings to all readers. He he he.....

Another One for WMWT

Well we have had a Chairman's Challenge running for the best part of this year. The standard has been very high and hard to judge.

Work has been going on behind the scenes and we now have a very enthusiastic sponsor in the shape of Mr Kevin Green from Earlswood Interiors, situated in the Craft Centre by the Earlswood Lakes.

He has taken on the

mantle of being our local stockist for all things 'Woodturning'.

He has spent a lot of time and effort testing the market and working out which would be the best items to stock for the benefit obviously to his business but also to the turner in general. From this point you can therefore be assured that you can get good quality and reasonably priced produce to fill the needs of your craft.

Of course the added bonus is you can go and look and collect yourself.

The business is a small concern run by Kevin and his wife Caroline. Whenever you go to the shop you will always be made welcome.

Enter the Chairman's Challenge and you could win the £25 voucher for the overall yearly winner, to spend at the Earlswood Interiors shop as well.



West Midlands Woodturners Badge

Ornamental Lathe Update

As you will recall from an earlier edition we have a project going within the West Midlands Woodturners to build the club an ornamental lathe from plans developed by Jack Chick in the USA.

Everyone has a copy of the plans within the building group and we have started to collect together bits and pieces of hardware we need towards the project.

We are only working and collaborating on this project during the hands on days so it is not going to be a rush job.

An appeal to members is being made by me. We are after some fittings that are used in the modern chipboard type kitchens and cupboards, the bits we want are the cam and pin fastenings so if you are stripping old furniture out please bear

us in mind, I will take as many as we can get rather than putting a number on it. We also require a 4" cross slide vice and a router that is shaped like a big Dremel, ie round. The routers with the fixed handles are no good I'm afraid. So if anyone has bits in their cupboards that could do with a new home please bear us in mind.

Find a job you love and you'll never work a day in your life. (Confucius)

Stencil Work

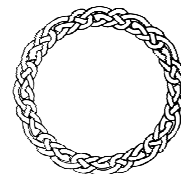
Following the recent demonstration by Joey Richardson I have done a lot of research and digging on the web for stencils and the like for use in ornamental decorative work. As a result I now have a considerable library of celtic knots, tattoo designs, and all sorts of other stuff that can be used or adapted to this type of work as

she well demonstrated. If you do not have the facility or computer knowledge to translate images and scale them, I do and can email them to you.

We have a local dealer who deals with good quality airbrushes and small compressors etc. They trade as 'Simple2Trade' and have a presence on eBay or

their own website, both links are listed on my site. They are very friendly and helpful and live locally

Paints etc as used by Joey can also be found on Artfolk site, link again on my site. Ick delivery.



An example of a transformed stencil ready for use. Fully scaleable.

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If you have missed any of the previous Newsletters and wish to get a copy, they are available from the [Woodturning Section](#) of my website.

Any comments please feel free to email me.

If you have an idea for an article or wish to provide an article relating to woodturning please contact me and we can discuss it.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter please email me and let me know.

We're on the Web!

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

Say NO to 0870 and charged calls

Say NO!

Still pushing this one so 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 on a payment number. 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.