

CHISEL & GROOVE



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DAVE WILCOX WOODTURNING

Editor's Waffle

A Happy and Prosperous New Year to all readers.

Well here we go a new year and already the time has come for another newsletter. It has crept up on me this time as the end of 2008 and the start of 2009 has been a very busy time for me. Luckily it has been too cold in my workshop to do much turning but it has given me a chance to tidy up again.

As most will know I have now taken on the role of Regional Representative for the West, which is Wales and the Midlands. I have spent time trying to learn what's been going on and the why's and wherefore's of this. I have now started in earnest to try not to repeat previous errors and to advance the

cause for the West Region.

I have to say I love the Woodturning fraternity, they are reluctant to step in to take a post be it on the AWGB or in their local Clubs, yet when someone does step in to grab the reins there is skepticism as to what is their ulterior motive, I love the old saying "There is now't stranger than folk". How true. Anyway keep the skepticism flowing folks, I don't care, all I want is everyone pulling for the Woodturning Community, the only thing I ask is that we all pull in the same damned direction for a change.

Over the Region we have a lot of good demo's on the books from all sorts of well known bodies, have a look at the [AWGB](#) site some of the Clubs put their



A nicely proportioned vase from a piece of English Cherry with a faded coloured stain from top to bottom. (80mm dia x 95mm h). Made 2008.

bookings on there, I hope after reading this the rest may as well, especially as it doesn't cost them anything to do so. (subtle hint there secretaries)

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



A nice piece of Ash with a celtic knot engraved rim filled with copper. (225mm dia x 25mm h). Made 2008.

Well okay I have decided that the Frappr maps and the Platial maps are not working right and have dropped the idea, maybe these can be returned to at a future date when the system is running to a standard that I call properly. It seems very erratic at the moment and several people complained that their pins wouldn't go where they were supposed to and the like. It seems a bit too complex for some. I will keep an

eye on it for the future.

The West Midlands Woodturners Closed Forum, well what can I say I will leave it running as it is a shame to do away with a good concept because the majority don't appear to want to participate, so to those that do use and enjoy it keep going, to those that cannot be bothered I blow de raspberry.

I have tried a few other Clubs to see if they wished to have a closed

Forum of their own for their members, with a moderator of their choosing, little or no response. Lethargy seems predominant, ah well another good idea bites the dust, the offer of space is now removed, want in you can pay for space and time. I hear whinges of poor communication and yet when it is offered there is no take up. Time to pull the heads out of the sand folks a whirlwind is coming.

Upcoming Shows

Confucious say, Support bacteria—is only culture some people have.

Two big shows on the horizon for the first quarter of this year, first off will be The International Woodworking Exhibition at Alexandra Palace, 6-8th of February, more info can be found at their [website](#)

Second we have the Scottish National Woodworking and Power Tool Show which is on the 13-15th of March. This is based at The Scottish

Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow. More details of what there can be found on their [website](#).

A little plug for our Sponsor, Kevin Green at Earlswood Interiors. He has started the New Year with a face lift to the interior of his shop where he is installing a lathe and bits for demonstrations on all things woodturning. He will still

be concentrating on his bespoke furniture manufacture, so if you are looking for that new table or cupboard drop in and have a look he has some very nice unique pieces he can offer you.

School Fayres



Assorted greenwood spinners..

Well Christmas has flown past yet again the next thing will be Spring Fayres, West Midlands Woodturners have for a long time supported the local school with their fayres throughout the year so lets get all those old odd bits of wood out and get the light pulls, spinning tops and the like turned ready for the next one.

To the other clubs out there why not pay a visit to your local school and have a word with the head teacher, They will usually snap your hand off, especially if a contribution is made to the school fund from any takings ;-)

These are good venues to get your club name out and about to the pub-

lic and to attract new membership

Local Woodturning Clubs

Do you know of a local club to you that does woodturning?

If the answer to this is yes, I want to ask a favour, can you find out as much detail as you can please and let me have the details, I have a project planned but need lots of clubs involved besides the ones already registered with a national body.

A little Brain teaser

Who said "Don't take life to seriously, you'll never get out alive"



West Midlands Woodturners Badge

Answer: Bugs Bunny :-)

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.

We seem to be almost there and most of the bits are now collected, no doubt we will find things we need as we progress but we should be able to start the build .

We have a router thanks to Peter Ford and have a

good collection of the dowel type fasteners from numerous people, thanks to all of you.

Confucious say,
It take many
nail to build a
crib, one screw
to fill it.....

Newsletters

I put my hands up folks, I need some articles. As you can see they are only small items but I am running low on ideas. As a result I intend to use this newsletter not only as a point for Dave Wilcox Woodturning and WMWT topics but for items related to the West Region AWGB as well

I have to say to some of

the clubs in the West Region I am very impressed with the Newsletters you produce, and the way you distribute, CD, email, hardcopy or all versions. I take my hat off to you all for the hard work. The size of some of these newsletters are like magazines in their own right, truly fantastic. You will not be facing competition from

this front I shall keep my distribution to pdf files and on my website.



An example of a transformed stencil ready for use. Fully scaleable. See the bowl on page 2. Done with this stencil.

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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.

Complaints:

Don't have a complaints department, bad luck.

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://](http://www.saynoto0870.com/)

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.