



**Herts
&
Beds**
Woodturners

WOODBITS
NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 165

Feb 2020

WELCOME

SUPPORT URGENTLY NEEDED TO RUN YOUR CLUB!

Your committee performs an essential role in ensuring the smooth running of all the club activities. Out of the ten members elected last year very sadly one member has died and we are losing two more through resignation later this year.

It's vitally important to recruit replacements before the next AGM on the 14th April to ensure that the club can continue to fully function.

In particular we need:

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Chairman: Tim Pettigrew chairman@hertsandbedswoodturners.org
Secretary: Colin Clark secretary@hertsandbedswoodturners.org
Treasurer: Peter Hoare treasurer@hertsandbedswoodturners.org

A NEW SECRETARY

Colin Clark is resigning at this year's AGM after 4 years of service. The main secretarial tasks are to take minutes at the 3 yearly committee meetings and at the Club's AGM, and be the contact point for the AWGB and Regional Representative..

A NEW EDITOR FOR *WOODBITS*

WOODBITS is the Club's monthly newsletter which up to now Colin Clark has compiled and edited for over 10 years in addition to his secretarial duties.

A NEW AUDIO VISUAL MANAGER

This task was admirably managed by Adrian Sims who is sadly no longer with us. It involves setting up and fine tuning the cameras, TV screens and sound system used during the demonstrations.

A NEW TRAINING OFFICER

Bruce Edhouse has organised the recent very successful training sessions held in the Community Centre but is relocating later this year. This role involves booking the training room, taking the trainee bookings, setting up the six lathes and supervising the 6 trainees during the day-long session. The sessions are also dependent on assistance provided by other experienced club members.

A NEW CLUB NIGHT ORGANISER

Grahame Tomkins is stepping down from this role at the AGM. The Club Night Organiser's duties involve taking the lead in devising membership activities at the club meetings where there is no formal demonstrator.

Your club cannot function properly without these essential roles.

So please can you consider volunteering?

Please feel free to have a chat at a club meeting (without any obligation) with me or any other member of the committee about what's involved.

Tim Pettigrew (Chairman)

2020 Competition Subjects

Feb	Lidded Box
Mar	Based on Feb demo by Ben Dick
April	Easter Egg
May	Object using several woods
June	Natural edged bowl
July	Kitchen Roll Holder
Aug	Candlestick
Sep	Goblet
Oct	Spinning top
Nov	Hollow form
Dec	Toy or puzzle

In this issue

Competition subjects

Volunteers needed

Programme 2020

Turners of the month

Gary Rance Demo

Turners of the Month, Nov 2019

Apologies but there seems to be some numbering problems last month

Beginners



1st Mark Azicowitz

Advanced



1. Allen Kaye



2. Peter Smith



3 Graham Lester



3. Chris Squires

Masters



1st Don Guy



2 Peter Hoare

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Open



1st Peter Hoare



3 Colin Smith

Demonstration by Gary Rance 14th Jan 2020



We always look forward to the January meeting, confident that we shall have an inspiring demonstration from Gary. This occasion certainly lived up to our expectations.

Gary started with a brief CV starting from his apprentice days when all the lathes in the firm were driven by belts and pulleys from a steam engine, when tool rests were made of wood and tool handles a length of gas pipe. Years of production turning on piece work gave him the facility for turning out work as fast and economically as possible. It was some years after setting up on his own that Gary was asked to do his first demonstration and he was amazed to find that there were people who did woodturning for fun, after all - as he remarked – a dustman does not go on holiday to empty bins.

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Gary then moved to the basic principles of spindle turning, making special use of the round skew (his signature tool) to make the pommel, the V cut, the planing cut and the bead. As a safety point, keep the left hand on top of the tool and this will make sure that in the event of a catch it cannot fly up and injure you. This was a lesson which he learned early on when the gas pipe handle scored a direct hit in the middle of his forehead. Coves should be turned with a 3/8 gouge, with the advice to stand to the side, otherwise the body obstructs the free movement of the tool.

The first project was to make an apple, choosing an attractive piece of wood 2 3/8" square and the same length (for a pear take 3" length) to be mounted end grain on a small screw chuck. The bottom was shaped first with a spindle gouge, including making a hollow for the calyx and drilling a hole for remounting on the screw. The maximum diameter of the apple should be one third from the top. After sanding to 400 grit, the work was reversed with a piece of one of Les Thorne's business cards on the chuck to prevent marking. After shaping the top and sanding to 400 the surface was polished with the finest Nyweb pad. Off the lathe the apple was held on a 6 inch metal rod to allow spraying with sanding sealer. Once dry, this was denibbed with 800 grit paper ready for spraying with lacquer. This would be left overnight to cure and then buffed to give a high shine finish. The finishing touches are to glue a stalk in the top and a clove in the bottom.



The second project was to make the base for mounting a pepper mill of the type sold by Axminster (Craftprokits £7.10). Gary chose an end grain piece of Yew about 3.5" square and 4" long. A 25 mm hole was drilled through the block, which was then mounted on opening pin jaws. After rounding the block, the top was shaped to fit the base of the mill. The rest of the body was formed with a cove flanked by fillets in the middle and a wider rounded base. The work was reversed to allow the base to be finished, then sanded, sealed and finished. The mill was mounted by drilling two small holes for the screws in the lugs. A wise precaution is to apply some glue to the screw which secures the handle, which may otherwise come loose.

Hurrying on, Gary managed yet a third project, namely an attractive little pill box made of Mexican Rosewood. The piece 3" by 2" square was mounted between centres, turned round and a dovetail formed at each end. After mounting in the chuck, a parting cut was made leaving 26 mm including the dovetail in the chuck to form the lid. This was trued and hollowed and the opening made parallel with a 1/4" skew. Next the base was mounted, shaped and hollowed with a spigot made to fit the lid tightly. The lid was then jammed on and turned and finished. The base spigot was very carefully trimmed to give a suction fit for the lid. Finally the base was reverse mounted in a jam chuck for the bottom to be finished.



Gary also kindly judged the competition entries and did a brisk trade in tools and an ingenious trigger handle for spray cans. Altogether an action-packed evening, which was much appreciated by a full house.

Tony Taylor

Steve Beadle Raffle Coordinator

I act as the raffle coordinator for the forthcoming year and need to fill the diary for the purchase of prizes for the months as stated below.

Raffle purchase Diary for 2020 so far

Month 2020	Name
January 14	Tony Bilsden
March 10	Harvey Allison
April 14	Stephen Tinsley Marshall

If you need to swap dates please contact me or another member so that cover can be maintained

As a guide we have increased the budget for prizes to £ 60.00 per month with a maximum number of prizes being 5/6 in total.

2019/20 Program

2020		
February 11th	Ben Dick	
March 10th	John Aitkin	The bowler hatted turner
April 14th	AGM	
May 12th	John Clothier	
June 9th	Club Night	
July 14th	Terry Smart	Chestnut Products
August 11th	Andrew Hall	
August 12 th , see above	Andrew Hall	
September 8th		
October 13th	Colin Smith	
November 10th		
December 8th	Christmas Social	

Loan Equipment

There is one of the smaller club lathes available for loan with a set of tools and chuck for anyone who is not yet set up but wants to turn while sorting out their equipment. Please contact Bruce Edhouse or Alan Lewis if interested: