Woodworms

Issue 134 Woodworms

Today's meeting started with a quick update on our successful Charity status from Derek Puplett. **Please see the full update from Derek at the end of the newsletter.**
Then we launched into today's demonstration from Gary Rance, which was great while it lasted.

Also in this issue we have details of the club's successful request for a local community grant and the pyrographers would like to announce they have available 3d wooden baubles for decorating. See page 7 for details.

Thanks to Graham Legg for all articles for the Brakenfield SEND project and the Chestnut Products Weekender Event.

David Reynolds and Pauline Linnell for snippets from their recent "shed" projects

Pauline Linnell for a few notes and images from the Cheshire Guild of Woodturners demonstration at Plumley Village Hall, Knutsford.

Competition images from Andrew Gordon and members descriptions of their hard work in the competition entries.

Talking of competitions, since a bowl qualifies as a symmetrical object then I hope to see a plethora of entries in October from the turners.



And just when I thought the newsletter was wrapped and ready to go, I get one "final" last article from our ever keen reporter; Graham Legg. Fresh from his posh dinner at the Armourers Hall in London. (See page 31 !)

Ken Rivers: Editor

Club Application for a Local Community Grant

Graham Legg

Over the last few months an opportunity arose to apply for a local Community Grant.

Brackenfield SEND School is based in the Erewash BC region. On behalf of the school and DDWC, I made an application for the grant.



For grants above £1500, each application requires an elected members endorsement letter of support. I contacted “Mr Mayor” (Councillor Harry Atkinson), who had joined us on 28th March for our Woodturning celebration at Brackenfield School.

A fabulous letter of support arrived a few days later. Part of the application process was to provide a detailed and costed shopping list.

Brian Walker has spent a great deal of time sorting that out, and eventually we were in a position to complete the application. There was a delay of some considerable weeks, whilst a panel of elected member’s considered the bid. I received a confirmation email in mid August that we would receive £3073. This was to support our full shopping list. We have since purchased two additional adjustable height tables, two MDF table tops, two Axminster 305 lathes, two sets of chucks, jaws and related accessories, two Record Power CamVacs and extraction pipes.





On Tuesday 8th September we installed the new equipment and some slightly older equipment into the school, ready for teaching the students as of 15th September. The grant means that we do not have to continually carry heavy equipment between the school and Wyaston village hall, and most importantly, our wheelchair students will have full and equal access to use the lathes via the adjustable height tables.

The savings made by Brian Walker’s negotiating skills allowed us to purchase a ProEdge sharpening system.

My thanks go to especially Brian Walker, but also to Derek Puplett, Simon Groom, Andrew Gordon, Colin Fishwick, David Reynolds and Kez Halliday. Without these volunteer club members, this outreach project would not exist.

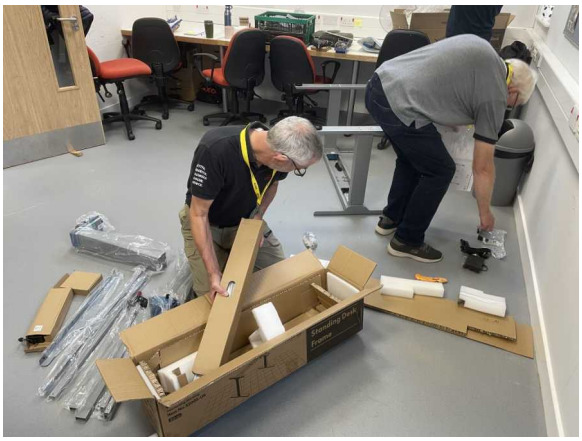


This is the installed dust extraction unit at Brackenfield. It was paid for via a £600 donation given to DDWC from the Worshipful Company of Turners.



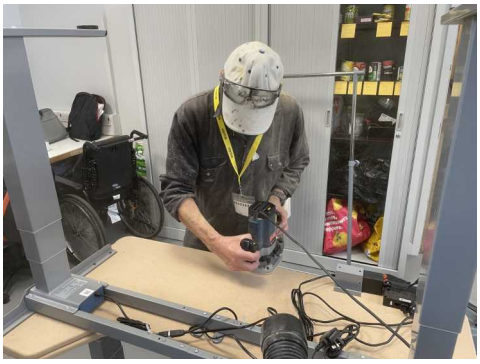
Another purchase from this donation is an adjustable height table to use at our club venue at Wyaston. Here is the team installing the three new lathes, three new adjustable height tables, three new CamVacs and a wall mounted air filtration unit; if Simon finds that screw!











You can see the workshop teaching area, with air filtration unit in place on a shelf, and the three new adjustable height tables ready for use.





These were fitted once David had figured out how a router works!.



More thanks to our installation team; Andrew Gordon, Simon Groom, Brian Walker and Derek Puplett.

Once again: congratulations to Pauline Linnell, Simon Groom, Sheldon Davies and Andrew Gordon (left to right). Our club members have all passed their AWGB Tutor Badge assessment. This brings our tally so far to nine DDWC qualified members!



We have two more club members awaiting their assessment and two more members enquiring about the Tutor Badge.

At the next club meeting, there will be an information session held in the committee room at 1030, for anyone who may be interested in this teaching qualification.

2026 September Meeting
Demonstration by Gary Rance

Gary gave a quick introduction, (more information can be found at www.garyrance.co.uk) before quickly starting his session. There was a full house of members keen to see this talented tuner create a few goodies.



Gary started off with some spindle work using a rounded skew with a round shaft. I took note of his tips to keep a hand on top of skew to help prevent kick back if it catches. The skew chisel I find great for making grooves but I still struggle when attempting a planing cut.



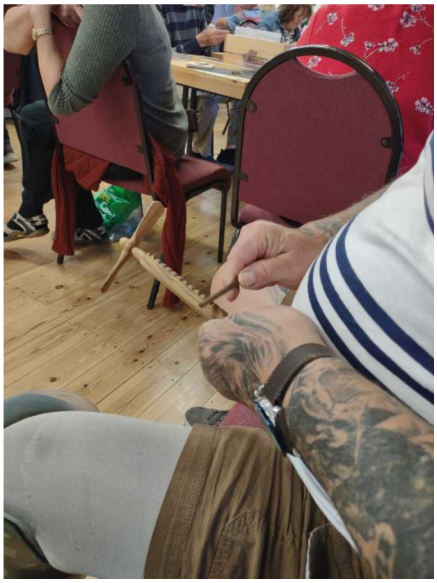


One of the most amusing items Gary created was the Gee Haw Whammy Diddle stick.

He first demonstrated this by standing on one foot and rubbing the stick sending the propeller one way then changing feet and sending the propeller the other way. Whilst he went back to the lathe and showed the members how to make one, the original item was passed around for members to try out.

For the next half an hour the only sound in the room was 40 members each taking turns to vigorously rub the stick to see if they could also effect the same type of rotation. Whilst I did not see any one actually stand on one foot, it certainly kept people amused.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gee-haw_whammy_diddle

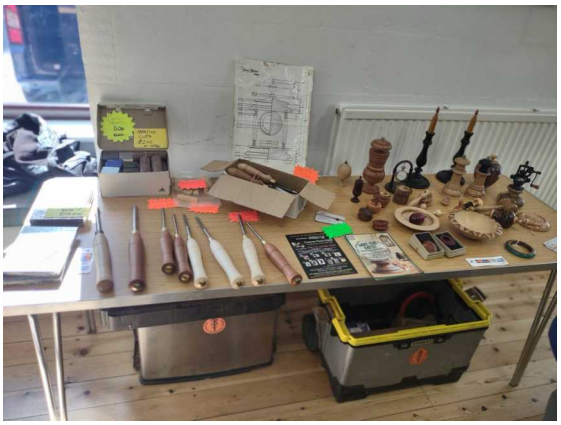


Gary also professionally makes and sells many pieces of wooden fruit and next up was a the creation of an apple.

On a good day Gary can make 20 an hour!



Unfortunately for the club members, Gary had to cut his demonstration short at lunch time when we all stopped for a break. A recent case of suffering from a sore throat and a lack of sleep made him look quite poorly. For health and safety reasons the chairman decided it was unsafe for him to continue in case he collapsed over the lathe whilst he was demonstrating. Gary did want to continue so as not to let anyone down, but was overruled and the demonstration came to an end. We do know he got home safely.



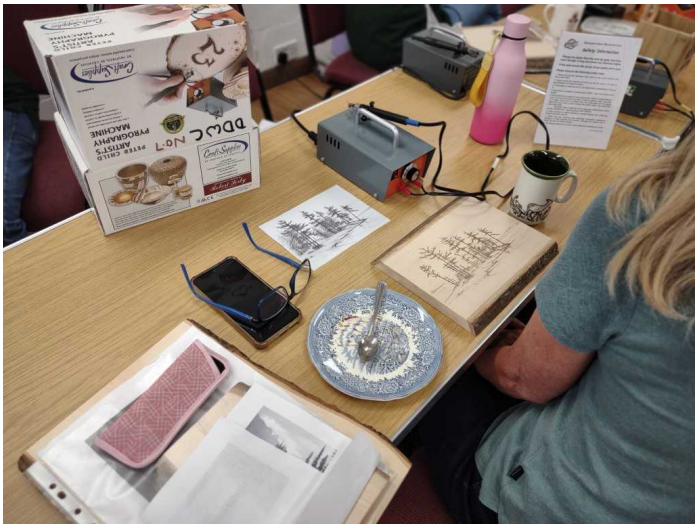




Examples of Gary's work

Pyrography





We have some 3D wooden baubles available for decorating in October and November.

Example picture of what could be achieved attached... but ours are not that big!



Carving

Not one to miss a chance to assist his group of carvers, or miss a photo opportunity, Peter dives in with help and advice.

Not even the clitter clatter of the Gee Haw Whammy Diddle stick can distract this group.

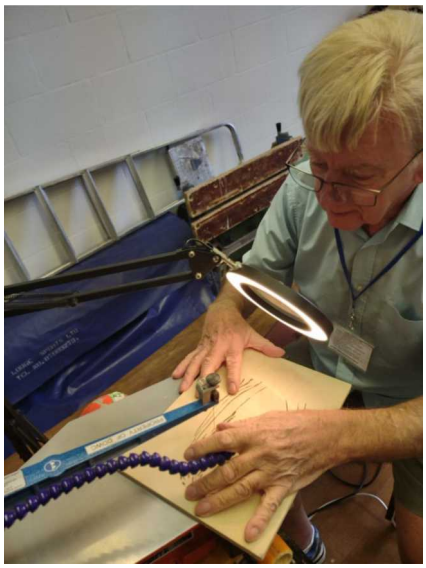








Scroll Saws



With the demonstration in full flow, James Sharpe is left alone to continue on another complex project.

You only have to look at the work that James has put into this months competition entry. Full details in the competition section.

Chestnut Product Update

Dan Beard is working out he details for members to be able to order Chestnut Products via the club for a small discount on the retail price and without having to pay for delivery. More details will be available at the next meeting in October.

Members Competition

1st Martin Garside: Clock: (Ash, Pine and other)

For this I used 2 pieces of scrap from my bin and a piece of turned sacrificial wood from an earlier project.
The clock is in 4 parts, face, base, stem and finial (stem &finial from the same piece).
I enjoyed making it and will try another with one species of wood. [**MG**]









2nd Graham Cope: Reed Vase (Beech, Maple & Other)



The reed vase was made from offcuts of beech, maple, and one unidentified wood. The beech and maple are the corners from a square block that I made a yarn bowl from. Glued and turned to create the shape it is a little one sided as I couldn't get a better fit from the offcuts. [**GC**]

Joint 3rd Greg Holmes: Pin Badges (Beech, Oak, Holly, Cherry)
I used pyrography for the outlines and cut out by hand using a fretsaw.[**GH**]



Also entered
Richard Dallas: Pen (Scrap)



Andrew Gordon: Tetris puzzle: (Pine, Rose and other**)**

I cut strips of the two different woods on the bandsaw, then glued them together alternately using Titebond glue. I then turned it 90 degrees and cut the block into strips again. I then re-glued again but in a checkerboard pattern. When dry I cut the block into pieces on the scroll saw. Finally lots of sanding to round all the sharp edges. The box was a cut to size from a Turkish Delight box that I received for Christmas. [**AG**]



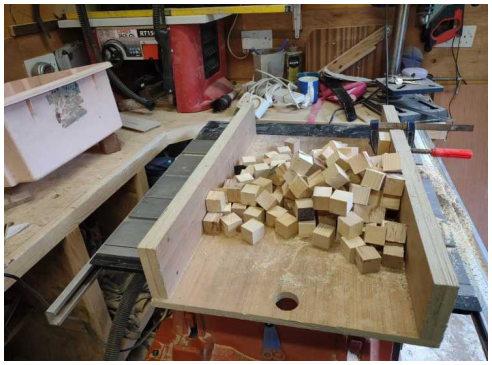
Ken Rivers: "Falling blocks" (All sorts**)**

Based roughly on the Tetris 'Falling block' game inspired by an image of the item I found.



First off was the cutting of a few blocks (221) and then what I needed was a board to stick the cut blocks to. The rules state no wood larger than A5 so it was back to the scrap pile.

Gorilla glue and lots of cutting and gluing as many different scrap bits I had lying around from various projects helped get me to the stage of having a board large enough to mount the blocks on.



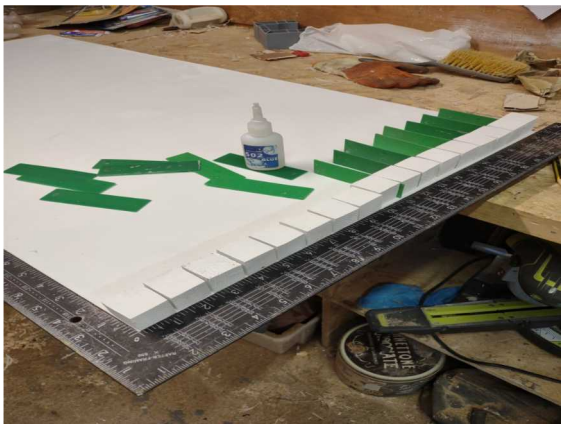
That's of course after the 221 blocks had been undercoated and then a top coat.



Using the image I found on the Internet I then glued the blocks in place. Thanks to Simon Groom for the tips on hot glue bridge for those blocks that are tumbling down the board.











Places & Leader Board

Andrew	Gordon	31
Ken	Rivers	28
Richard	Dallas	18
Graham	Cope	12
Richard	Latos	10
Gregory	Holmes	9
Hyacinth	Dixon	6
JONATHAN	Helliwell	6
Alan	Lamb	5
Martin	Garside	5
Val	Branson	4
Colin	Fishwick	4
Kes	Halliday	4
Sue	Yates	4
Carole	Snell	3
Lisa	Williams	3
Philip	Jones	2
Michael	Kelsall	2
Alex	Walker	2
Brian	Walker	2
Ian	Wheatley	2
Kevin	Shaw	1
Jacob	Dixon	1
Ben	Parry	1
PETER	Favell	1

Competition Votes

Votes/Points

1	Martin Garside	14	5
2	Graham Cope	12	4
3	Greg Holmes	7	3
4	Richard Dallas	4	2
5	Andrew Gordon	3	2
6	Ken Rivers	2	2

Masters Competition

1st John Williams: Robin: (Various scraps)



The scrap wood challenge was a good one for me as I always save my scraps for Intarsia projects.

I find a small piece of ebony is always great for eyes and beaks and the off cuts from box sides are usually enough to make up the rest.

Biggest problem for me is storing all the off cuts. [**JW**]

2nd: Simon Groom: Door (Mice) Wedges :
(Oak, Beech, Pine Maple & Walnut)



I made the Door Mice out of necessity !
During the heat wave we waited till the evening to open all the doors and windows to cool things down.
We live in Hulland Ward which is often very windy so the doors kept banging hence the Door mice door wedges.
Lots of off cuts from squaring off spindle blanks seemed perfect for the job.
Thanks to John for supplying the thin leather offcuts he uses for lining his boxes which were perfect for ears and tails.
A bit of carpet anti slip underneath keeps the mice in place.

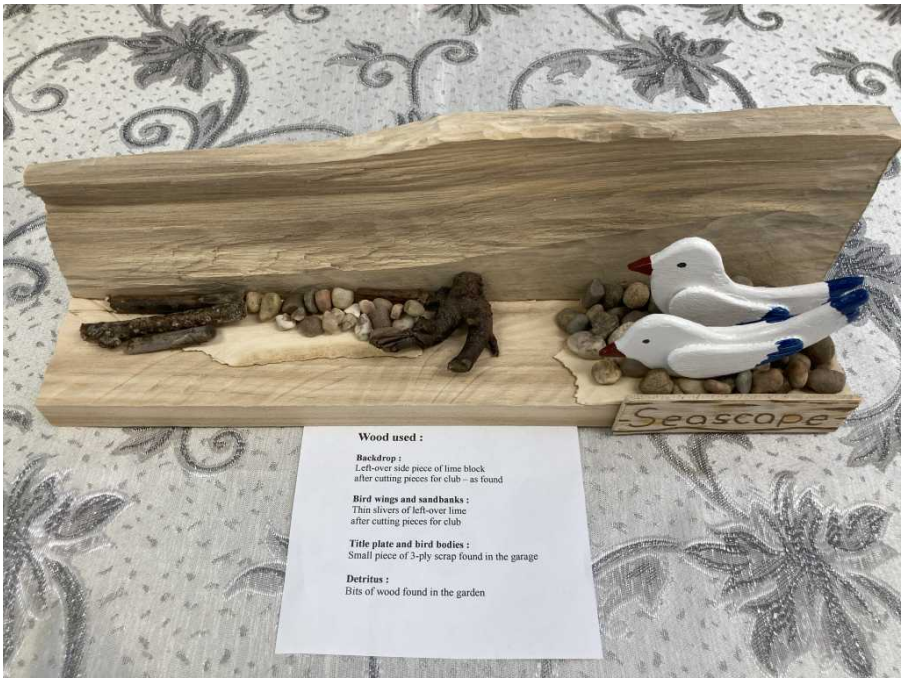
3rd David Reynolds: Bowls: (Ash**)**



Also Entered:

Peter Branson (Lime & Ply)

We were visiting the RSPB shop at Carsington Reservoir and I noticed some gulls for sale amongst the decorations, toys and general ornaments. I took a photo of them thinking that I could carve a few one day. By chance I then found an off-cut of a piece of lime in my garage. I had cut a number of pieces of lime to be used as starter projects for club members from a large block of lime and this was the piece left over - one very smooth cut side and the other rippled and coarse. I took one look at that and immediately saw a landscape scene in the ripples and cracks and shadows - and a distant headland and shoreline appeared in my imagination.



Then it was a 'simple' matter of finding a few scraps of wood - some bits of 3-ply, thin slivers of lime, a few short twigs from the garden and a small amount of gravel and the scene was complete! Oh! ... and a little bit of paint! [**PB**]



Pauline Linnell: Tazza: (Sapele & Pine)

My Tazza was turned using scrap sapele and pine. I glued alternate lengths of the 2 woods together and once dried, turned the dish section. The base was turned from sapele and both these elements incorporated a recess in which to fit the stem. Pine was used for the stem and tenons created at both ends to fit the recesses. All sections were finished in sanding sealer and wax.[**PL**]

A tazza is a wide but shallow saucer-like dish either mounted on a stem and foot or on a foot alone. The word has been generally adopted by archaeologists and connoisseurs for this type of vessel,[1] used either for drinking, serving small items of food, or just for display. Tazze are most commonly made in metal, glass, or ceramics, but may be made of other materials (Ref Wikipedia)

David Waldron (Scrap)

Early in the year we were clearing Terry Cambridge's workshop and there was a cigar box which was going to be thrown away, so it went on the something useful future pile. The DDWC competition theme for September is scrap wood challenge. So, after rummaging through the scrap pile found some oak with woodworm holes in it and some maple.



Using the left-over tuners from a cigar box I had previously made for the February competition I made a second with an actual cigar box. [**DW**]

Derek Puplett (Maple)



My entry was as a result of going on a free, AWGB training course with Mick Hanbury on the topic of thin wall turning. One of the items that Mick had on display was a 'wooden frisby', which consisted of two thinly turned platters glued back to back and pierced.
I considered that this was a challenge worth taking on, so my project for the day was to turn two identically sized platters. Under Mick's guidance, I duly set about making the first platter, with a wall thickness of about 3mm, which will form the back of the 'Frisby' having a slightly thicker wall thickness than the front. The second platter was turned with a wall thickness of 2mm, which was the side to be pierced. I'd like to say that the diameter of both platters was carefully calculated, but with a huge amount of luck, both platters were millimeter perfect in diameter and glued together perfectly.

Once I got the piece home, I sanded the outside surfaces and removed one of the chucking points. This was a 'squeaky cheek moment' as when removing the chucking point, there was a real risk of making a hole if I had hollowed out the inside too deep at the bottom of the front platter.

I decided that I wanted to pierce a dragon onto the front face, so sent off for a dragon stencil and transferred the image onto the front face. My piercing equipment comprises a 24 litre compressor with an in-line filter, a foot-controlled air switch and a dentist drill.

It took around two hours to complete the piercing, after which the surface required careful sanding to remove any scorch marks generated by the 300,000 rpm drill and bits but without breaking any of the thin bridging pieces. Once completed, a coat of sanding sealer was sprayed over the front and rear surfaces. I also sealed the inside rear by pouring diluted sanding sealer through the piercing and swilling it around to cover the rear platter. Once fully dried, I did a similar thing by coating the inside rear with blackboard paint. This gave a solid background to show off the Dragon piercing. I thought that a changing colour LED light might add a different dimension to the piece, so drilled a hole in the rear chucking point and inserted the light. Unfortunately, it didn't have the desired effect, so I removed it and turned the hole into a mounting point for a stand.[**DP**]

Graham Legg: Bowl: (Ash)



I made the large fruit bowl out of Ash. It was a seriously heavy and awkward project. The wood was very dry and dusty, and hollowing out the inside was an absolute night-mare!

The finish is a new product for me, and is a finishing oil that is not from Chestnut Products.

No votes at all! But I enjoyed the challenge! [**GL**]

James Sharpe: Dinosaur Skeleton: (Birch Ply)

When we hold a club Open Day it's usual for each discipline to display a selection of items made by members. This year one of the scroll saw exhibits was a dinosaur skeleton made by Richard Dallas.

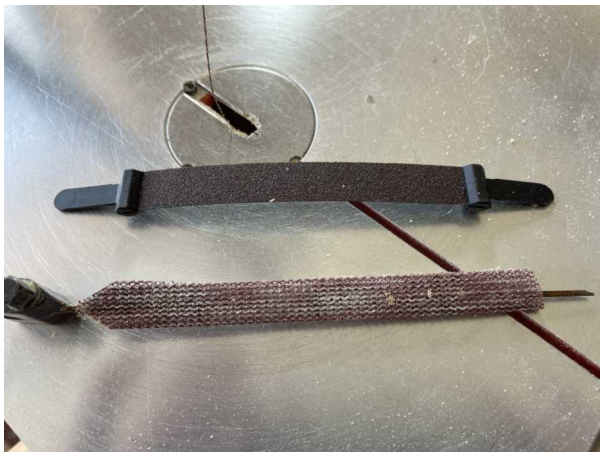
I saw it as a challenge and thought I'd give it a go; Richard kindly loaned a memory stick which held the pat-terns of a few models and I chose to do the Velociraptor.

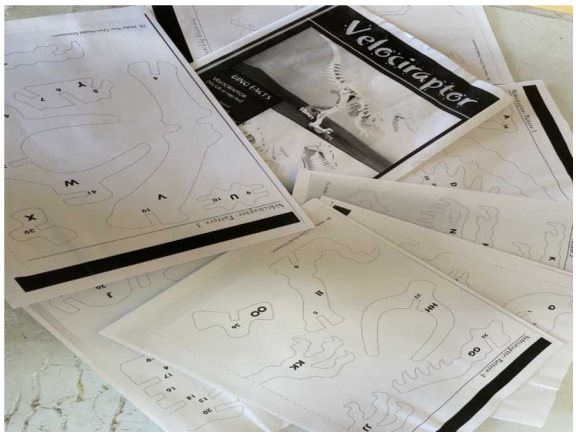


Preparing the pattern was the easy bit then came the trickier bit of cutting out 44 pieces from 6mm. Baltic Birch Ply . Even that was easy compared to the assembly as each joint (about 35 of them) had to be sanded to get a good fit.



I purchased some scroll saw sanding strips for the job, they worked fine but at £9 each I thought it a little on the high side so I made my own! (Us Lincolnshire lads come second only to Yorkies when it comes to being careful with money!)





Sanding strips - shop bought and homemade.

I cut a strip of Abranet to size, folded in half lengthways and using CA glue fixed it around a large gauge (no. 12) scroll saw blade, and guess what? It does the job at a fraction of the price! Result!!

All joints were now ready for the final assembly and I found that the fit was so tight that I only used glue on half a dozen of them, the rest rely on friction alone.

My wife asked what I was going to do with the finished piece, and I replied that I'd no idea so polite suggestions on a postcard please! [**JS**]

Competition Votes & places

		Votes/Points	
1	John Williams	11	5
2	Simon Groom	8	4
3	David Reynolds	6	2
4	Peter Branson	5	2
5	Pauline Linnell	4	2
5	James Sharpe	4	1
6	David Waldron	1	2
6	Graham Legg	1	1
6	Derek Puplett	1	1

Leader Table

Simon	Groom	32
John	Williams	31
Pauline	Linnell	25
Graham	Legg	15
Peter	Branson	10
David	Waldron	9
Derek	Puplett	8
David	Reynolds	7
James	Sharpe	5

To Dye for … Recap



Following on from last months article by Pauline Linnell (inspired by David Reynolds colouring of bowls): I managed to catch up with the master himself for a quick talk though on applying the colour.



Timber selection is quite important to achieve the desired effects, I have used quite a few different timbers but have found Sycamore and Ash the best, whatever the choice it needs to have uneven and rippled grain, the more the merrier. After turning a bowl and finishing with a sharp scraper it is best to start applying the stain before any abrasive is used. I start by applying a black stain first which must, as all stains, be allowed to completely dry before using any abrasive. Start with 120 or 180 then apply one of your chosen colours, with the darkest first then followed by the next grade of paper and continue this process for each colour you wish to add.
Before application of any finishing coats sanding up to 240 or 320 are fine enough. A light spraying of sanding sealer can be applied before any finishing coats, Morrells spirit stain is my choice because it was purchased at the right price! Simonized Acrylic Lacquer was used on this bowl as the final finish.: **David Reynolds**

Giro Bowl



I saw a picture of one last year and added it to my ever growing projects of things to do.



I couldn't find a video online of anyone making one so had to make it up! I had a long tenon on the pointy end in order to hollow out and then continued shaping the pointy bit as far as I dare before mounting the bowl on the Cole jaws to remove the tenon and finish off the pointy bit. **Pauline Linnell**

Editor's corner

New toy unboxed and mounted on the wall. Just have to find a project to use it in anger. October's symmetry project could be a candidate.





These days I could not function effectively without the use of a good table saw. I process as much recycled wood as I can and this is the first tool in my arsenal for ripping down larger timbers.





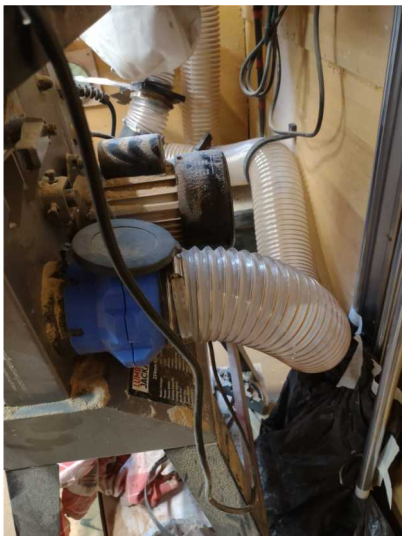


Hence some table saw maintenance was required. The blade would not freely raise or lower when turning the handle. The raising and the lowering of the blade is driven through a horizontal shaft via two interlocking cogs to turn the horizontal shaft motion to a vertical motion of the blade.

Turned out the cogs were stripped. I ordered two new ones from www.evolutionpowertools.com. Excellent service and a great price for these items. I halved my maintenance task by only replacing the one that had the most damage. It's still a bit 'rough' but it would have to be a full strip down to get to the other cog. Image above shows a damaged one and the new replacement.

Next up its dust collection, or in my case the lack of it on my bandsaw.





I have a Wall-Mount Dust Extractor 870m³/h Airflow (from Rutland Tools).
I had already ran a 4" pipe from my lathe to the extractor via a cyclone dust collector box.

Since the bandsaw (actually mounted on castors) is located close to the collector, I have now connected that to the Dust extractor. A bit fiddly but the use of a "Y connection, a couple of 'blast gates', a magnetic connector at the bandsaw end and multiple large hose clips have sorted the problem.
(Making all of the plastic parts with a 3D printer also helped).



As there were no guesses at David Waldron's "Odd Tool", he has revealed it is 'purfling pick' which is a specialised chisel or scraper used by luthiers to clean out the purfling channel around the edges of stringed instruments.

See attached article by David on making a Cello.

Making a Cello – Part 3 By David Waldron

It's that time of year again when I go off to the Cambridge Violin Makers school. Following on from last year the first day continued where I left off, in finalising the edges of the plates to 3.5mm from the rib sides. The C bout corners were also cut back to 3.5mm. When completed a file was run around the edges to ensure they were parallel to the ribs as shown below.



The next stage is to fit the purfling which is a decorative inlay fitted near the outer edge of the cello. It consists of three laminated strips of wood (black, white, black) and is 1.6mm wide by 2.5mm deep. The channel lines for the purfling which runs around the edge of the cello are marked out with a purfling marker. The outside blade of the cutter was set at 5mm in from the edge and the inside blade to give the correct width of the purfling. However, before marking the plates, the purfling marker was used on a scrap piece of wood and the channel cut to the correct depth and the purfling tried in the slot to ensure it had been set correctly. The channel was then marked out with the purfling guide around the edges of the plates. Local to the C bouts the purfling marker does not fit and so these were drawn in by hand and the chisels used to mark the line.



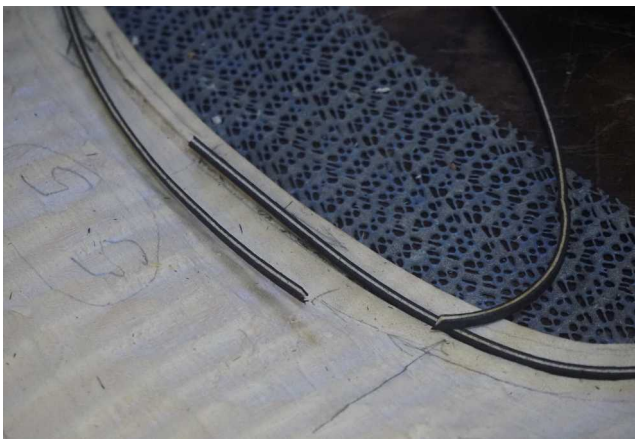
After marking, the plates were removed from the ribs and the wood grain direction marked on the plates as a reminder on which direction to cut the channel. A knife was then used to cut along the lines to a depth of 2.5mm. This is to ensure that the channel sides are vertical.



When cut all the way around the waste is then removed with a purfling pick and the channel cleaned up with a file. Overall, for a cello the channel is around 12ft! so it took a day or two.



To fit the purfling in the groove it needed to be bent first to fit the curvature of the C bouts, however, the purfling was dry, brittle and frequently broke even with wetting.
Eventually after much perseverance and help from the teachers we did manage to get it to follow the shape around the C bouts. Each end was then cut to length to fit into the C bout; however, due to the breakages, several pieces were short and required to have a scarf joint at their ends to give a continuous run. It was then dry fitted to ensure a good fit.

The purfling was then glued into the back. Now I just need to repeat it for the front, well next year.



The cello originated in the early 1500s in northern Italy, evolving from earlier string instruments like the viola da braccio. It gained popularity through the craftsmanship of makers like Andrea Amati and later Antonio Stradivari, who standardized its size and design, making it a staple in Western music

Many thanks to David Waldron for this very detailed article. On the lighter side he can also entertain you with a few "cello based puns".

Why did the daddy cello not allow the little cello to go to the orchestra shows? Because the shows always contain sax and violins.

Why can't zombies be conductors in an orchestra? Because they only know how to decompose.

Cheshire Guild of Woodturners demonstration at Plumley Village Hall, Knutsford. September 12 2026

By Pauline Linnell

Simon Hope Demonstration (Hope Woodturning)

The Cheshire Guild of Woodturners welcomed Simon Hope of Hope Woodturning for a full-day demonstration on Saturday 12th September. Doors opened at 9:00am, and that gave us the opportunity to browse and purchase items from Emma Cook's (The Tiny Turner) stall, Planks & Blanks, and Hope Wood turning's range of tools and accessories. Following a welcome coffee and chat, Simon began the first of three demonstration sessions.

Throughout the day, Simon maintained a brisk pace, showcasing a wide range of tools, techniques, and practical tips.

Resin Bowl Experiment

Simon began by turning a bowl featuring decorative channels in the rim designed to be filled with coloured resin. Interestingly, the resin and hardener had been purchased from Halfords rather than a specialist supplier. Two channels were created, with one incorporating coloured powder supplied by Emma Cook.



After pouring the resin, Simon mounted a separate piece of wood off-centre on the lathe and placed the bowl on the lathe bed. By running the lathe, he caused the bowl to vibrate, creating an attractive pattern in the resin resembling fish scales. The bowl was then set aside to allow the resin to cure before being completed later in the day.

Pewter-Inlaid Box

The next project was a decorative box featuring a textured pewter insert in the lid. Simon turned the box and decorated the outside using a beading tool before partially turning the lid. He created a mould for the pewter insert in a scrap piece of wood, melted the pewter in a pan on a gas ring, poured it into the mould, and left it to cool and solidify.



Lunch Break

We then broke for lunch and a welcome opportunity to stretch our legs, as the chairs were beginning to feel rather hard by this point! A generous spread was provided, followed by the club raffle before Simon resumed the afternoon session.

Acorn Tape Measure Dispenser



The next project was an ingenious tape measure dispenser with a screw-top lid shaped like an acorn. The tape measure is drawn from a slot in the body and rewound using a black sphere mounted on the top.

Zebrano was used for the acorn, and the top was textured. Simon cut matching threads on both the box and lid using a thread-cutting attachment mounted in the tailstock.

During the afternoon refreshment break, I said goodbye to fellow members: Graham, Derek, and Sheldon as they began their journey home to Derbyshire.

Completing the Projects



By this stage, both the resin and pewter had fully set, allowing Simon to complete the earlier projects. Returning to the bowl, Simon decided that he was not happy with the appearance of the inner resin ring, so he simply turned it away. The completed bowl was finished with lemon oil.

Attention then turned to the pewter-inlaid box. Simon released the pewter insert from its mould and checked the fit within the lid. Once fitted, he turned the pewter flush with the surrounding wood, added texture to its surface, and produced a black finial to complete the design.



The finished lid demonstrated the hallmark of a well-made box: it was a perfect snug fit. Simon could lift the entire box by the lid alone, yet the lid could still be removed effortlessly. The piece was then finished with a coat of lemon oil.

Off-Centre Candlestick



With around 20 minutes remaining, Simon was keen to demonstrate an off centre candlestick. He first marked the centres of both ends of the spindle before marking an additional point 10 mm in from one corner at each end, with the offset points positioned on opposite corners. This allowed the work piece to be remounted off-centre when required.

Although the project ultimately took around 35 minutes to complete, it remained an impressive demonstration and provided an excellent finale to a thoroughly enjoyable day. Members interested in trying this project themselves can find a demonstration on the Hope Woodturning website under
Courses → Free Online Woodturning Courses → Eccentric Candle Holder.

Conclusion

The day was both educational and entertaining, with Simon sharing a wealth of knowledge, practical techniques, and workshop tips with plenty of good-natured banter from Emma Cook and Mick Hanbury! The variety of projects, combined with his engaging presentation style, ensured that we took home plenty of ideas and inspiration for future turning projects.

Woodwork on a larger scale



I am fortunate to live in an unspoiled part of the country. Currently as I look out of my window I can watch the renovations taking place on Bowling Green Farm.

I am currently observing the old roof coming off and the new one taking shape.



It's woodwork, just on a slightly larger scale than maybe many of us never get to experience.



I had hoped to get a few more details of the work involved but the couple doing this restoration also have day jobs and that makes them a very busy pair.



Chestnut Products: Seventh Annual Woodturning Weekender

By Graham Legg

Chestnut Products have recently held their seventh annual Woodturning weekender which was held at The Dome, Doncaster. There were four main demonstrators:- first up was Nathanial Griffith, who made a very clever boxed and rotated symmetrical rotating box.

Second up was Les Thorne, who made a very clever seven piece lidded box. Les should be a professional comedian!

Third up was a German turner; Mario Nagel, doing his first ever demonstration. Mario used spirit stains and scorching on a wide rimmed bowl.

The last demonstrator was Margaret Garrard (at our club very recently). Margaret made a very clever bowl with inserted contrasting pieces of wood, via the use of a router on a jig. The main hall was filled with exhibitions, club demonstrations, competitions, a raffle, side shows of other demonstrators and of course shops selling all things wood related.

The photos show just a few examples of the work on display. It was a very worthwhile two days, costing only £60.









Turners Chat
Members Zoom Meeting 17 September 2026

With holiday season coming to an end the recommencement of “Turners Chat” started up again. Only 5 members showing Brian Walker, David Reynolds, Graham Legg, Val Branson, Colin Fishwick & Ken Rivers. I also forgot to take an image of the usual suspects, so for those that have reached this far in the newsletter; there are no more images for you to draw a moustache on.

Who's been making what allowed Graham to get in first with his turning of a darning mushroom. David had been on his production line, turning out ‘gonks’, I have reverted back from craft to construction and am part way through making a porch canopy.
Colin had been practising his thread chasing finding resin and acrylic seeming to best hold a thread. He received plenty of advice from Brian, before Brian impressed us with some large ash & beech bowls from a recent hands on course with Colwin way. Very Nice

New DDWC Tutors. As none of our four new tutors had managed to make this meeting they were ~~heavily criticised for their lack of enthusiasm and overall sloppy discipline.~~ cheered on for their hard work and efforts. It was envisaged that the extra tutors should help take the load off the existing tutors and be able to split any teaching required.

Graham talked about a future plan to teach some of the staff at Brackenfield to become tutors. This would allow some of the load to come off the club tutors to allow them to be able to spread them selves to other establishments to assist with teaching.

Club ‘hands on days’. In order to spread out teaching amongst the 4 available lathes, it was talked about allowing each person about 90 minutes before allowing someone else to work on the lathe.
Some discussion when at the start of the last demonstration by Gary Rance, he showed some basic spindle as an introduction to turning. The same approach had been tried with some new students at Brackenfield. Whilst they did not seem to appreciate this type of introduction, Graham hopes it will make more sense when they start on their next project.

The Chestnut Weekender: has already been reported on above as has the Cheshire Guild of Woodturners demonstration.
I have been asked not to repeat Graham Legg’s embarrassing story about his timing logistics. Please feel free to corner him at the next meeting or hear the story from David & Brian with added embellishments.

David Reynolds finished off by pointing outing out the ‘superb’ safety features employed by a few wood turning enthusiasts on YouTube.

Zoom Meeting Schedule for 2026
15th October, 19th November & 17th December.

Posh Nosh Courtesy of Graham Legg



A few weeks ago our illustrious Chairperson and his ‘minder/carer’ were invited to a snack lunch at The Armourers Hall in London, courtesy of Joey Richardson, Master of The Worshipful Company of Turners. *(https://turnersco.com/)*

The invite was to recognise the hard work and dedication of DDWC to the SEND programme at Brackenfield SEND School.



We were delighted to be invited and recognised for the contribution that a good number of our club members have made over the last few years to our outreach project.

I had to make sure that our Chairperson was well dressed, well oiled and looked after!

We were inundated with a friendly welcome, lots of “Posh Nosh” and some very nice wine and port!

Joey Richardson (Master) gave an after dinner address, where she named our club and chairperson for their
contribution towards adding Woodturning to the curriculum at Brackenfield SEND School, and for making a real life changing experience for the students.

(Joey has offered to help us with the purchase of three sets of Woodturning tools for the school, worth in the region of £600).



As you can see from the photo's we were in a very prestigious and historically significant building. You may also note the number of empty glasses surrounding our chairperson!

Derek and I were sat next to a number of previous "Masters" who were all very interested in our work at Brackenfield, as was Emma Cook (RPT) who was also sat with us.

https://www.emma-cook.com/about

Thank you for a lovely lunch and a great day out, to all of our club members who have helped us at Brackenfield!

Much appreciated!



DDWC : Update on Charity Status

We initially went down the route of becoming a charity for a couple of main reasons. One of those was that, subject to HMRC approval, we will be able claim Gift Aid on all subscriptions to the club. That means that for every £1 members pay we can claim 25p under Gift Aid, so a £40 subscription will equate to a £50 subscription. Assuming any individual member wishes to let us claim gift aid.

There are a number of different types of charity and we have elected to be a CIO - Charity Incorporated Organisation. The main benefit for us being a CIO is that it reduces the liability of the Club in that it that provides limited liability for trustees and is regulated solely by the Charity Commission. In the past full liability rested with the Committee. We have chosen to be the type of CIO that has both a board of Trustees, who will be responsible for compliance to Charity Commission rules and regulations and a Committee who will provide direction of the Club on a day to day basis.

As stated, being a CIO means that we are regulated by the Charity Commission and have to comply with strict conditions, one of which states that we have to have an Annual General Meeting within 18 months of becoming a registered Charity. At that AGM we have to submit audited accounts to members, accept the resignation of all Trustees and comply with various other Charity Commission rules. Traditionally, we have a year end on 31st December. If we stick to that, we will not be able to have audited accounts for the period and nobody will have any idea as to the performance of the trustees to know whether to vote them back as Trustees or not.

We, the Trustees, have decided to change the Financial Year end to run from April to April. This means that at a proposed AGM in December 2027, we will be able to submit audited accounts for the period August 26 to April 27, being the period from when we became registered through to our new year end.

As the committee has no standing within the Charity Commission, we can hold a meeting in December 2026 to elect the officers of the club and other Committee members, we can also have our normal presentations, fuddle, raffle etc. However, there will be no AGM of the DDWC Charity until Dec 2027.

The Trustees are currently Peter Branson, Graham Burke, Dan Beard, Graham Legg and Myself, Derek Puplett.

This is early days, but if you have any queries regarding our Charity status, please contact me and I will do my best to answer any questions you may have.

Derek Puplett
Chairman

Upcoming Woodworking events

Festival of Wood and Country Crafts
by the British Stickmakers Guild
Bakewell Agricultural Centre, October 4 2026, 10:00 to 16:00

Brailsford Ploughing Match
Sapperton Manor, Church Broughton, Derbyshire
October 7 2026

DDWC Programme 2026

Competition themes

October	- Symmetry
November	- Remembrance
December	- Christmas Around the World

Demonstrations for 2026 :



November we have a carving demonstration with Michelle Bolton

(https://www.mbwoodcarver.co.uk/)
https://www.facebook.com/MichelleBoltonWoodcarver/

Competition Rules for the Challenges/ Collaborations 2026

Christmas Around the World- December 2026
Each member creates an ornament inspired by a different country's holiday traditions.
- Must be made primarily from wood.
- Any woodcraft discipline allowed (mixing is encouraged).
- Piece must relate clearly to a cultural winter/Christmas tradition.
- Provide a short note (a paragraph or two) about the country/tradition that inspired it.



Eg: In Hawaii, Santa Claus doesn't ride a sleigh with reindeer. Instead, he often arrives on an outrigger canoe, sometimes accompanied by hula dancers and musicians. The boat is usually pulled by dolphins

NEXT ISSUE COPY DEADLINE
28 October 2026

Find us on

Club Positions	
Chair	Derek Puplett
Vice-Chair(s)	Kez Halliday Brian Walker Graham Legg
Secretary	Peter Branson
Treasurer	Graham Burke
Librarian	Val Branson
Demo. Co-ordinator	Philip Halliday
Safeguarding Officer	Graham Legg
Competitions Co-ordinators	Andrew Gordon Dan Beard
Tool Co-ordinators	Brian Walker Val Branson
Members Representatives	Colin Fishwick Sheldon Davies Dan Beard
Woodworms Editor	Ken Rivers

https://www.facebook.com/derbyshiredaleswoodcraft

DATA PROTECTION
Your personal details are held on computer for the use of DDWC. We only use this information to run the organisation. If you would like to know what information we hold and how we use it, please contact the Secretary.



Woodworms - newsletter of Derbyshire Dales Woodcraft Club.
Editor/publisher: Ken Rivers

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