



North London Woodturners

**Issue No 7
June 2018**



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Chairmans Comments

Well , we are six months in our new venue .

We now have 25 members, having made up for the losses mainly due to the move and if we can attract some more members at the same rate we will be doing well.

We have an opportunity to sell our surplus creations at Stephens Hall & Gardens next month where we have high hopes to raise some cash.

We urge all of our members

to make or bring along some items to sell.

The auctions we have held raised some money and we have an high end upmarket fair in Hampstead at the end of the year.

So there are lots going on but we mustn't get complacent, these ideas spring from just 2 or 3 people .

We did get a reprimand from the Arkley management for leaving a mess last month. This was because most attendees left before the end of the session and only left 2 or 3 left to clear up. It should not happen again. There is a nursery

at the hall every day and they watch vigilantly everything we do. They are there 5 days a week and we are there once a month so if push comes to shove.....!

On a better note we have arranged a social BBQ on August 4th an opportunity to meet with our partners under different circumstances. The next 6 months have a lot to offer.

Jeff Hyams

Dates for your diary 2018 Programme

At the club :-

20th June : Mark Sanger - Hollow Forms

Outside the club

1st July UK & Ireland Woodturning Symposium

Hilton Hotel Coventry

5-7th October AWGB International Woodturning Seminar

Stone Staffordshire

See VIEW LOVE BUY

www.northlondonwoodturners.co.uk

Lots of interesting stuff on it - take a look

Please send me your images, ideas, experiences - good & bad, designs, tools bought & sold, wood locations anything that might interest members.

Profile - Robert Craig

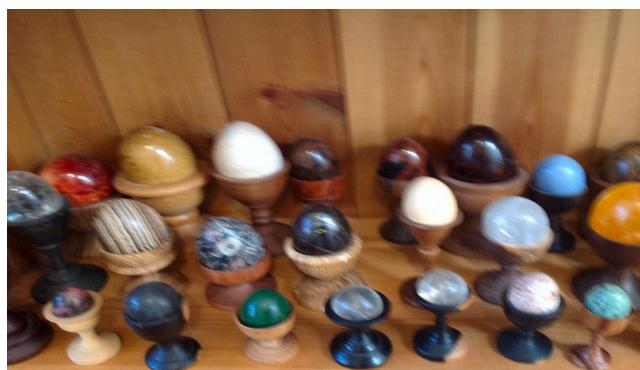


A happy man in his workshop



and what a wonderful workshop

Just a few of Robert's huge collection of turned items, every shelf and corner has lovely objects turned over many years



Robert is a solicitor, still working full time with private clients mainly including many artists and writers. He also does work establishing organizations as charities, - as he did for the AWGB. [Associated Wood Turners of Great Britain]

His great passion is woodturning with which he has been involved since 1982.

However his interest in all things wood started on his 7th birthday when his father's friend gave him a real tool kit. He always been hands on and still makes lovely toys for his two grandchildren. Says he gets it from his father who was a great "fixer"

His serious interest in turning started in 1981 when he went on a 3 day course by Gordon Stokes a well known professional in the 1970.

His books "The Manual of Woodturning", and "Modern Woodturning" are still available today on Amazon. Other notable turners for whom he has great respect are Phil Irons, .. quote "an exacting teacher" who can be seen at exhibitions & shows, famous for turning top hats. Tobias Kaye who is famous for his sounding bowls. [soundingbowls.com] and John Berkeley who taught him to make screw threads .

Robert had the idea of starting our club and became its first chairman, The gang at the time were Robert, Jeremy Eckstein, Jonathan Brostoff and Terry Vaughan. They met in Robert's kitchen and their workshops.

A cutting from an early woodworking journal, documents the opening of the club in the early 1990's

A new group for North London

A woodturning group has at last been formed in North London, "filling a void", as the chairman/secretary Robert Craig from North Finchley puts it.

The first few meetings were held at members' homes and workshops, but they are searching for more suitable premises. "We are looking for a school or college, but many either don't have lathes or are not prepared to allow us in," said Robert.

He added that high rents were a problem in north London, with one school wanting a fee of £30.

When Robert spoke to *Woodturning* in July, there were about a dozen members, meeting on the third Thursday of every month, but numbers were rising.

The range of skills is wide, with professional woodturners as well as amateurs having joined the new AWGB-affiliated group. Robert, a solicitor, is keen to hear from any would-be members.

"Woodturners have a tremendous urge to natter and swap notes about their craft, so a local group is an ideal way to get together. Anyone interested in hearing more about our activities is welcome to contact me at home on 081 446 0679."

I was most struck when I entered his workshop at the immaculate way everything was in its right place and neatly labelled. Also the place was spotless without a trace of shavings. There is wood everywhere neatly stacked up with the name and date of each piece. Two outhouses are also neatly stacked with wood

He said he will never need to buy another piece of wood. In fact he had one clear out about a year ago, and threatens to have another.

The workshop is overflowing with tools of every shape, I nearly wrote size, but his work is concentrated mainly in small small items such as boxes, egg cups, bangles mainly and small bowls all beautifully made and finished, so size is limited.

He has a Record lathe which he has had many years and it does him well.

Robert only turns for pleasure and never sells his work. He does however give a lot away as gifts for special occasions such as weddings and birthdays

We talked about some of the characters from the old days, many of the older club members will remember Monty Brill - sadly passed away

Vivian Solomon - who turned in his greenhouse and a character called Peter who has his lathe in the attic. Robert knew the famous Bert Marsh also now deceased.

We talked about how to get a good finish on work and he recommends melting beeswax in walnut oil in the microwave [Schhh don't tell the wife !] for items that might be in contact with food - salad & fruit bowls etc... and sanding after oiling - it cuts down the dust. Then to finish he buffs using a handful of shaving of the same timber.

He has always found woodturning to be was a most satisfying hobby, for the opportunity to improve your skills and to meet like minded people from all walks of life

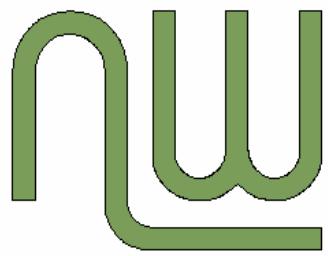


A well stacked & stocked workshop & store room



Roberts shavings eliminator- a blowpie !





North London Woodturners



Centenary Celebrations
Family Fun...
Garden Fete

12.00 Noon - 5.30pm
Bring Family & Friends
Bring Turned work for sale

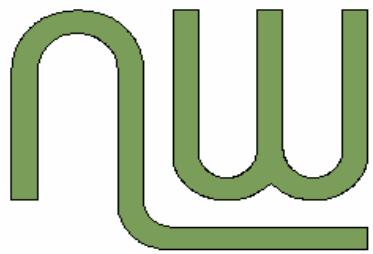


A very lovely setting in the heart of North London

Please bring turned items to the next meeting on June 20th at the club. If not attending please let us know & we will collect from your home before the Fair. We will have our mini-lathe running which always attracts a crowd - and 2 stalls with the club display items. Please take part and make it a worthwhile event



**David Gerrard - gerrardarch@gmail.com.
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Jeff Hyams - hyamsjeff@btinternet.com.
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North London Woodturners



Julian & Julia Marksons have kindly offered their home. Come and enjoy a BBQ party with members of the club and meet partners, friends & family. Bring your own meat/fish but please no pork or bacon. Bring beers, wines, soft drinks & salads, nearer the time we can co-ordinate who brings what. Please let me know if you intend to come.

RSVP to gerrardarch@gmail.com as soon as possible or call/text 07971 877758



View, Love, Buy

An outstanding one day show of art and craftsmanship organised by the Worshipful Company of Turners.

Many works will be for sale - to use, display and for presents.

Tuesday 27 November, Carpenters' Hall, City of London.

Order your tickets in advance to guarantee your entry time.

turnersco.com/turning-competitions-2018/



The competitions are the largest in Europe and attract a wide range of entries from both amateur and professional UK woodturners. Judging is on Monday 26 November. To find out how to take part, download entry forms and rules, from the website above

Visits to Daventry Show 12 April

An excellent show with many suppliers, the usual suspects like Axminster, Cheshunt finishes & Simon Hope with his new Twister lathe plus offerings of wood & tools, For me meeting Mark Sanger working on a hollow form was the highlight, he spent a lot of time with us, - us being Tom Heinserdorf & Bob Elswood, in fact he inspired us to book a days training in Gillingham. We bought 3 copies of his excellent book "Turning Hollow Forms". It also happened that he was free to demo at the club on 20th June, as I happened to know that we had no one booked for that date.

April 18th Demo Garry Rance



Garry turned an offset pendant and showed us how he had made a pepper mill.

He demonstrated how he made a screw chuck and organize his sanding system ... actually not a lot more to say !



Adding a brass ring to a bowl

by George Hanson

Last year I decided to try adding a brass inlay ring to an otherwise very plain bowl. I was surprised how easy it was. I went on to use the same technique to fill cracks and knotholes in other bowls, and was very pleased with the results.

Materials needed

The materials needed for brass inlay are relatively cheap, and are readily available. The first item needed is a small jar of *brass powder*. This can be obtained from most of the usual online suppliers of turning materials, including *Toolpost.co.uk* [150 g for £5.05 plus VAT], *Turners-retreat.co.uk* [200g for £8.45 incl VAT], or *Stilesandbates.co.uk* [129g for £9.20].

I



I prefer to get my powder from *Turners Retreat*, as it comes in a container with a nozzle which is very helpful in ensuring that the powder goes where it should. Other suppliers supply the powder in a simple plastic jar, in which case I use a spill made from a piece of folded card to pick up small quantities of powder and apply it [see above]

The other item needed is a supply of *cyanoacrylate glue* ["*superglue*"]. This is widely available from number of

suppliers, including those mentioned above. But it must be the *thin* variety, sometimes described as *penetrating*. I prefer to get mine from *Toolpost* as the thin *Starbond CA* glue from there comes with a fine nozzle to aid application [50g for £6.50 plus VAT]. If you buy glue without a fine nozzle, then it is worth buying something like *Flexitips* which consist of thin nozzles to fit most superglue bottles [see fig 1]

The powder goes a surprisingly long way. Although I bought extra in case I ran out, I am still using the first jar of powder, although I have been very profligate with the superglue and am already well down the second bottle.

Procedure

The approach I took was to cut two shallow grooves near the edge of the bowl with a standard 3mm parting tool. I did this after completing the outside of the bowl, but before hollowing the inside. I did this so that the bowl would be as stable as possible when adding the brass ring,

The grooves were quite shallow, only about 2mm, so as not to weaken the side of the bowl. The grooves need to be close to horizontal to stop the powder running out. So, with the lathe switched off, I started at the top of the bowl putting powder carefully into the top 3 or 4 cm of the groove, and then adding a few drops of superglue to solidify it. I then moved the bowl round slightly to bring the next 3 or 4 cm of the groove to the top, and then repeated the process of adding powder followed by a few drops of superglue, and kept repeating this process until the entire groove had been filled with brass powder.

NB this process must be carried out in a very well ventilated workshop, as the fumes given off by the glue are very powerful. I did it by the open door of my workshop and I wore my ventilated turning visor. I am not sure how good the filter in the visor was, but I felt better for wearing it

On checking the groove I found that the powder had settled when the glue was added, and so I went round again adding powder and gluing it in so that the brass stood a little proud of the surface of the bowl.

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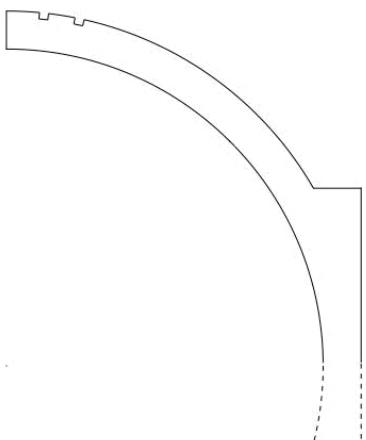
After a few minutes the glue had hardened. I then levelled the brass back down to the surface of the bowl using a freshly sharpened scraper. I had discovered on the internet that HSS tools as used for woodturning could also be used to turn solid brass, so this was no problem.

I did not use abrasive to smooth down the brass as I had already discovered that the wood abrades much faster than the brass, and it was therefore impossible to get a flat surface that way.

Fig 2: Preparing the bowl

When I checked the bowl after scraping I saw that there were still a few places around the ring where the brass did not entirely fill the groove. I went round again adding powder and glue as needed [slightly overfilling the gaps], and again used the scraper to level the brass with the surface of the bowl.

It was then possible to finish the outside of the bowl by sanding up to 1200 grit to get

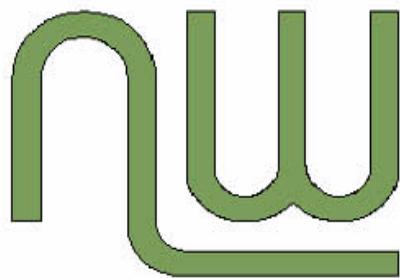


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It was then possible to finish the outside of the bowl by sanding up to 1200 grit to get a good finish on both wood and metal, and then adding several coats of Chestnut Hard Wax Oil.

The bowl was then completed in the normal way. I discovered that the wood did move slightly as I hollowed it out; not a lot but enough to have prevented me using a scraper on the outside if I had left the process of adding the brass rim until this stage.





North London Woodturners



SWOP SHOP

Got any tools, hand or powered that you no longer need, someone may be grateful for them, Bring them for sale to boost the club funds or you may want to swop for one of yours.

This month we have a router and some hollow form tools on offer.

BOOK STALL AND LIBRARY

Got any books, DVD's, magazines on woodturning or related subject - We can sell them or start a library. Bring them too



Lets raise some money for the club and at the same time maybe get a tool which you fancy