



**Issue No 8  
October 2018**



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Auction of turning it ens  
Question & Answers session  
Club lathes : 4 lathes out for training + grinder for sharpening practice

##### **Your Committee**

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Before the next Newsletter we will have been in our new premises for a year - how time flies.

It has been an excellent move. We have increased our membership to 27 due to a new catchment area, web site and word of mouth has resulted in more visitors than ever coming to our evenings ... 63 overall at the last count. This can only mean more members in the long run.

A most important advantage is more room in the storage area where we now have up to 4 lathes as well as storage for turned items for the next craft fair, and room for everything needed for a demo evening [ camera & projector etc.. ]

Our committee are thinking of ways to expand our activities with local groups to train new members who need to get experience outside the open evenings which are only every two months.

### **Dates for your diary**

**At the club :- November 14th demo : Paul Howard**  
**Craft Fair : Sunday December 02, at Burgh House**  
**New End Square, Hampstead London NW3 1LT : Visitors 11 - 4pm, Access for exhibitors 9.30am. Nearest tube : Hampstead ( Northern Line ) Funds to be shared between club & creator ( if requested ) Tell your friends to come & buy.**

#### **Volunteer needed**

I could do with a volunteer to help out with publicity, particularly in the area of social media, Facebook Instagram, Twitter. Also to act as sub-editor of this Newsletter to find and write up interesting topics - it is a lot of work single handed ... anybody willing ?

**Do you get REVOLUTIONS the AWGB Newsletter, if so look at page 17 of the June edition, if not it is reproduced at the back of this Newsletter.**

#### **Website**

[www.northlondonwoodturners.co.uk](http://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 - David Fairman



David's first turning piece



David's carving jig

Up till now I have only featured club turners of long standing or of exceptional talent. Since one of the aims of this Newsletter is for members to get to know others more intimately and demonstrate their skills with wood, I have decided to feature our newest member who has only just started woodturning. Not that he is unfamiliar with wood, he is a brilliant woodcarver as will be seen in the images that follow. His knowledge of wood and trees is vast and he has been working with wood all his life.



Sequoia log ready for carving



David rides his carving horse

David spent most of his life as a cabinet maker and shop fitter, making furniture under contract to various large stores such as LEB, Sketchley's, MFI, as well as restaurants and hotel chains. At 19 he made a nine drawer chest of drawers with traditional quality joints. He emigrated to Australia where he spent the next 15 years still in the cabinet making business.

He returned to England in 2002 to marry Kim and be stepfather to her 3 girls. He is now a driver for B & L coach lines, ferrying special needs children to their respective schools.

This job isn't full time so he cast around for interesting and fulfilling hobbies.

He was given a set of carving tools and he started cautiously chipping away at a block of Leylandii wood with very satisfactory results.



Carving Tools



Holme Oak

Brown Oak & cherry bowl platters

During the cold spell this year, David slipped and broke his right arm in two places. That was bad enough in itself, but it put a temporary stop to his carving as he couldn't hold a mallet any longer. He had to find a wood related pursuit that didn't need his right hand, so he made a treadle lathe and became a "bodger", the ancient craft using either a treadle or a willow spring branch to provide motive power to the spindle. This was OK but if he really wanted to start turning, he needed to get a powered lathe.

When his broken arm was sufficiently healed to start turning. David went to his first meeting at Muswell Hill [ which was the last one there ] and then to Arkley where has joined the club and is now an enthusiastic and valued member. His lathe came from Tom Heinersdorff who has recently upgraded to a more modern lathe.

Asked whose work he admires most he said David Fisher who makes beautiful hand carved wooden bowls. Carving really has the big advantage that things need not be round and incorporates other figurative features.

When he retires, which he hopes to do so soon, David's wish is to spend much more time in a combination of carving, turning and making some furniture.

His facebook page is "David's Bespoke Wood Creations" We wish him every success

## Some more of David's Carving pieces



Oak Bowl



Coffee table top



Jarrah bowl



Pine cone hedgehogs



Laburnam bowl



Broomstick from willow branches



A man's shed is his castle

# Demonstrations

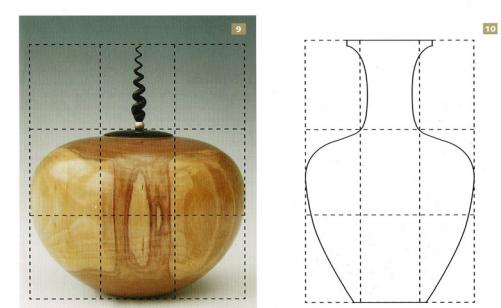
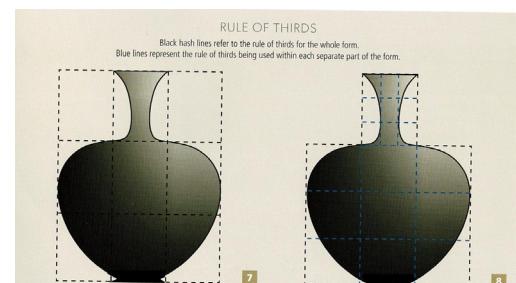
June 22nd 2018

**MARK SANGER**

Well known for his hollow form turning and book “TURNING HOLLOW FORMS First Steps and Projects”

This is a wonderful book, not just for hollow form techniques in turning but also for the appreciation of good form.

Mark started his presentation by saying that no amount of skill in making an object will make it beautiful unless it has good form. The essence of form is set out in the book and in the images below. It basically means following the rule of thirds and the golden ratios. Observing form in nature is a good guide to good form. One could study the shape of a fig or a pear or great architecture in Florence and Rome for inspiration.



**Good form follows the rule of thirds**

## Stuart King Demo - 17th Sept 2018



Chatter marks on end of wand made by flexible blade.

### Report on the demonstration by Stuart King at Arkley on 19/09/2018

Stuart explained that he had been asked what he was going to make at the demo and his reply was something Magical.

He mounted a prepared square blank in the chuck and immediately complained that the chuck was too near to his hands and advised us to buy a McDonald jaw set that extended away from the chuck and was much safer, so he changed the chuck for his and a set of jaws.

The turning started by roughing the blank down to a cylinder with a skew chisel and then featured a few coves and beads at one end. All the time he was turning and chatting about his grandsons liking of Harry Potter. The turning continued along the blank with a taper to a point at the chuck end and finally parting off. Yes, it was a Magic Wand.

With help from the audience (the only lady at the demo) a few magic words and she was asked to pull a string that had appeared at the handle end of the wand (this hole was already in the prepared blank and concealed by the supporting centre) and out popped a small bottle (about 20mm long and 8mm diameter with a cork in the end). With a few more magic words his newly recruited assistant was asked to pull some more string from the wand and hey presto a 3-metre length of bunting appeared.

The next task was to turn a small goblet, with a captive ring, to go inside the bottle.

This was attempted using all small home-made tools, the ring broke but he finished the goblet anyway and popped it into the bottle. Not all tasks go to plan at demos. To complete the wand, he then turned a plug to close the handle end of the wand.

The final part of the demo was to turn some discs of ebony and then with a thinned and shaped table knife presented to the face of the disc produced a chatter in three positions which he then contained in concentric rings between them. To highlight the chatter, he then used some gold cream rubbed into the features. Wow what an effect ! He did warn us that these features are random and cannot be repeated to order as the variables, (work speed, wood, overhang of the scraper on the rest, position on the blank) all affected the result. This was repeated several times and different colours were used to demonstrate the results achieved

A very entertaining demo. ( copy with thanks to Brian Tidmarch )

## Going to a dinner party .. don't take wine or flowers, take a little clock ...

I have taken to making little clocks using watch movements from Axminster or other outlets. They are always appreciated and admired & are so easy and cheap to make. It took a while to find the quickest way and easiest steps. My first one took two hours and various re-chucking. Now I set out the steps and the time it takes 30- 45 mins max from start to finish. Cost £10 maximum depending on the wood. The wood used below is Thuya burr from Morocco. A soft and sweet smelling wood with a lovely grain patterns



Start 10.30



Prepare Blank



Drill 10mm hole



may need some force



square up blank



Exact diameter



Cut to 0.2mm less



Fish Turn



Polish



25 mins later



Sand / Polish with 100 - 6000 grit



Place the round drilled blank on Screw chuck once - 10mm drill , makes hole 10.73mm. It's tight, so used large stilson to get the blank on & off. I used masking tape when removing to protect finish If turned hole is a bit loose use electrical tape as a filler. It works fine.

I finish with sanding sealer, friction polish & then Beal buffering kit. Pop edge on belt sander with clock almost vertical to get it to stand. You'll need a few degrees to lean back ( not too much or it will fall over backwards ) Job done 45mins



# Important Announcement

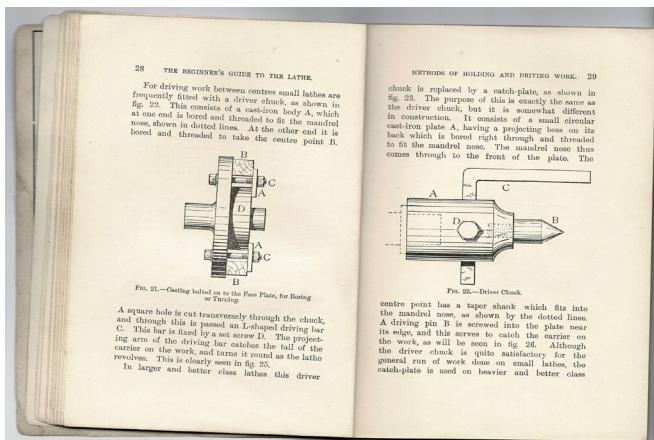
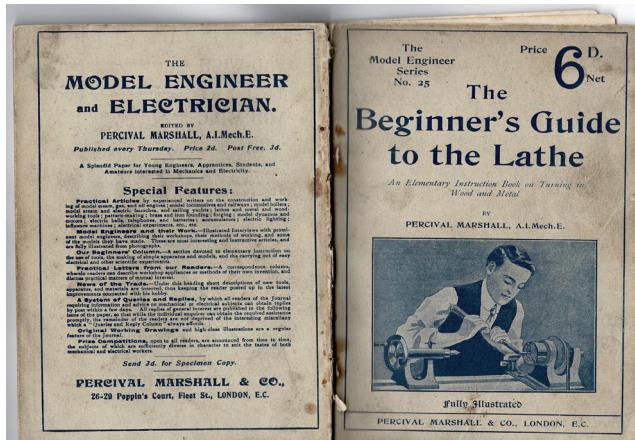
## SUNDAY DECEMBER 02 CRAFT FAIR AT BURGH HOUSE

New End Square Hampstead London NW3 1LT : Visitors 11 - 4pm, Access for exhibitors 9.30am. Nearest tube : Hampstead ( Northern Line ) Funds to be shared between club & creator ( if requested ) Tell your friends to come & buy.

This announcement is a request for all members to make something to sell at the fair. Brian gave a demo on making Xmas or snow men. Very good, could members have a go. We need a few high quality items to sell in the £50-£100 bracket, funds to be shared with creator ( by agreement ) Other ideas are clocks, fruit, candle sticks, pepper mills, oak platters, pestle & mortar, natural edge and plain bowls in all sizes, pens, vases boxes etc... We aim to raise enough money to make a profit after expenses, and Burgh House is not cheap ! PLEASE HAVE A GO AND BRING IN ITEMS AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING. If you have items but can't come to Nov meeting, let us know and we'll collect from your workshop.



and finally for a laugh ...



Front Cover and a page from inside 1916 book on woodturning

Love the waistcoat and tie, I bet his shoes are shiny too

And I learnt something new on pages 28 & 29 ... a driver chuck, have I missed something I should have known ! Book by kind permission I - lent by Jeff Hyams.

## **North London Woodturners move to grand new location**

**David Gerrard**



The NLW club which was formed some 20 years ago in a founder member's kitchen and saw remarkable growth in the early years. However many members have retired and attracting new enthusiasts is challenging. We have just moved from the Muswell Hill Community Centre to the Arkley Village Hall - near Barnet & Elstree.

Our club has amongst its members the winner of the AWGB bursary - Ghenadi Vasileiv - a young and talented turner. We are also very lucky to have Terry Vaughan, a professional turner of some 40 years standing.

The AGWB have just kindly bought a lovely Axminster lathe which is on permanent loan to us. We also have a portable mini lathe for fairs and hands on evenings. The club meets every 3rd Wednesday of each month from 7.30 to 10ish.

Demonstrations are on alternate months by well known professional turners. The image shows Kevin Hutson turning candlesticks and a slender vase. Alternative months are either workshops where advice is given and newer members can learn to turn under supervision, or members give a talk on an interesting topic such as sharpening, tool making, finishing or anything that may come up.

Competitions & critiques are encouraged. We are also currently making a copy Jacobean chair as a team project.

This year we plan 2 craft fairs, in the summer at Stephens Hall in Finchley and a Xmas fair at Burgh House in Hampstead. Members can make items specifically for the fair or donate items made in the past.

Training is offered by approved members for anyone who wishes to improve their skills either in a workshop evening or in a local workshop belonging to one of the approved teaching members.

The club is extremely friendly with currently only 25 members. We hope this will increase as you can see from the photograph it's a huge hall capable of 100 or so members!

For details of membership and the club, go to [northlondonwoodturners.co.uk](http://northlondonwoodturners.co.uk) &/or contact David Gerrard - membership sec on 07971 877758 or [davidgerrard@btinternet.com](mailto:davidgerrard@btinternet.com)

## **Auction of turning items**

**The sad news that one of our ex-members had passed away came to light when Robert Craig sent an e-mail around members saying that various machines, tools, wood, and accessories were available, and we should let him know if we were interested.**

**I did so and went to visit the lady. The ex. club member was Peter Coleman who died of a heart attack some 6 months ago. Money raised was for a charity in his name. Several of our members bought lovely new machines for a good price. The rest is being auctioned at the club at the October meeting. Much will be left over and we propose to bring it out every meeting until it is sold. The arrangement is that his widow ( Josephine ) takes half and the club the other half.**

**Avail yourself to this opportunity to help the charity and the club.**