



# **Trafford & District Woodcraft Club**

## **NEWSLETTER**

**TDWC founded in 1998**

**Club Website: [www.traffordwoodcraft.co.uk](http://www.traffordwoodcraft.co.uk)**

## **Machinery 2024**

**A Polite Reminder Members must wear their  
ID Badges  
please wear your Identity Badges on Club  
Nights.  
Thank You**

## **Chatters from the Chairman**



The first signs of spring are here, daffodils are showing, crocus are out, there is slightly more daylight, and you can spend time in the shed with only two jumpers on instead of three and a woolly hat! Saying that the forecast for the next week is back to sub zero temperatures.

To begin with some good news, the club recently applied to the Asda Foundation for some funds for the club and following a long form filling session with a lot of ancillary paperwork we have been awarded a grant to enable us to purchase some new equipment for the club – keep your eyes peeled in the next month or so for exiting new toys!

The bookings are being filled for the summer months and it won't be long until we are back out doing the rounds with the local shows and displays. Please do come along and help out, it gives you a chance to sell some of your wonderful creations, gets you some pocket money to buy new timber and tools. It also helps to promote the club into the local community – exactly the reason we were awarded the grant in the first place!

I have been booked again for another club demonstration for March this time. A "Bran Tub" item will be demoed with all the lathes out for members to be encouraged to make simple items for the "Bran Tub".

Second plug is for the upcoming AGM which will be at the start of April. It's your club – have your say. Any questions you have for the club, any points you want raised or information/details you are unsure about – now is your time to ask.

A really good way of helping the club would be to offer some of your time to help out. We are all a bunch of volunteers and jobs are needed to be done on club nights, demonstration evenings, local events and shows and generally with the running of the club. Can anyone offer their services to help out. The hours are long and gruelling, the pay is non-existent, and the perks simply don't exist, but you will have some club members occasionally say thank you which is nice.

If you do think that you could be of some help then please speak to any of the committee members and we will gladly accept.

**Finally, a reminder that it is rapidly heading to that time of the year again when we are after your membership subscriptions. Remember you can pay by cash, cheques, card, bank transfer or direct debit so there should be no excuse for not paying on the 1<sup>st</sup> April.**

**David Thwaite CHAIRMAN**



## Demonstration Brian Ledsham TWDC Member 06/02/2024 Description by John Willson

Brian is a long-time member of the club and frequently entertains us with impressive demonstrations.

In March last year he showed us his Wibbly Wobbly. That was an asymmetric toy that wandered from side to side as it rolled down a slope.

Tonight's project was equally special as it consisted of an elegant stand for a plant or candle where the inside started off by being turned on the outside. Such an idea might sound baffling but Brian showed us how it could be done to produce an intriguing piece of artwork.



The basic principle of this type of 'involute turning' is that the initial blank is made of four perfectly square batons glued together with newspaper in the joints so that at a later stage these 4 pieces can be separated and then glued back together in a different orientation.

One vitally important detail about mounting this glued block on the lathe is that there must not be any pressure from a pointed centre on the spot where the 4 pieces come together as this would result in the newspaper joints coming apart. So the initial blank was mounted between two steb-centres which have a spring-loaded retracting point such that the wood is supported by a ring of teeth. Brian's 4-piece ash blank was about 6" long and 3" square. He marked off lines  $\frac{1}{2}$ ", 3" and  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " from one end. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ " section at each end was left completely untouched in the initial stages as these squares would be required when the pieces were re-glued after splitting.



He pointed out that although beginners often set the lathe speed at 500 rpm he much preferred to operate at a speed of 1200 rpm which gives a much better finish. He used a  $\frac{3}{8}$  bowl gouge to carve out two matching symmetric curves between the  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 3 lines and between 3 and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lines. At this stage the piece looked like a double diablo juggling toy.



He lowered the speed and sanded the curves through the grits from 120 to 240. Two coats of sanding sealer were applied to the curves but not the square sections at the ends.



The ends were labelled 1,2,3,4 and then the piece was split into its 4 components by replacing the steb-centre in the tail stock with a conventional pointed revolving centre. Increasing pressure was applied by steadily winding in the tailstock. Any parts not separated were split using a sharp edge and a hammer.

On the bench the 4 pieces were positioned exactly as they were in the first stage, then each one was rotated through 180 degrees before being glued back together with strong Mitre Fast 03A cyanoacrylate glue and an accelerator spray.

This gave a new 6x3 block with a square outside and a hollow inside. This was returned to the lathe between two steb-centres. Back at 1200 rpm this was turned to a round and then each end was reduced in diameter to form a 35mm spigot which would eventually fit into holes in the top and base formed using a 35mm Forstner bit.



The 4 wings in the central area were also refined. Just as the spigot near the head stock was being made there was a catastrophic failure of the glue and the 4 pieces flew into the air. But Brian was not disheartened and over the tea break he glued everything back together again. The outside of the re-glued piece was sanded and sealed as before.



The top of the plant stand was made from a 1" thick 4" diameter ash blank in which Brian had previously drilled a shallow dovetail mortice so it could be mounted in the jaws. . The lathe was turned down to 300 rpm and using the Forstner bit like a pencil sharpener he slowly created the 35mm socket.



Back up at 1000rpm he shaped the under-surface around the socket and decorated it with some narrow grooves which he blackened by burning them using steel (guitar string) 'cheese wire'. This under-surface was sanded and sealed. He changed the jaws to a much narrower set so that the piece could be reversed and held via the 35mm socket. The upper surface of the top was now refined to hold the plant pot (or candle) and sanded and sealed.

The base of the stand was made in a very similar manner from another 1" x 3" diameter blank of ash. The top and base were glued to the involuted stem to finish off the project.

This was an excellent, greatly enjoyed demo' where everyone learned something. Perhaps some members may be inspired to have a go at this project themselves.



**John Willson**



# Competition Winners

## Woodcarving Winners



2nd and 3rd Place Winner Duncan Meachin with two spoons

1st Place Winner Michael Gulson with his Lattice Love Spoon



## Woodturning Competition



2nd and 3rd Place Winner Peter Knapman with two Boxes

1st Place Winner Stuart Chadwick With a Hinged Box



There are No Woodcraft Entries



## Midlands Woodworking Show 24

Is one of the most popular and busiest on the calendar. The show is easily accessible, with a wide range of demonstrators and a good mix of trade exhibitors, the show attracts visitors from throughout the whole of the UK.

Prices appear to have been held from last year at £10.00 for one day on the door £8.00 online.

£15.00 for both days on the door and £13.00 online.

For more information Google Midlands Woodturning Event

It's that time of Year again

The first instalment of Membership Fees £52 are due by  
1<sup>st</sup> April

## MARCH 2024

### DEMONSTRATIONS

Collaborative demonstrations 2024.

As at the time of writing (21/2/24) I am still waiting for further info from Cheshire Guild of Woodturners. I'm not quite sure about the delay but confident that we will have at least a Collaboration with High Peak and hopefully Cheshire Guild also, rest assured that there is a plan B if the above doesn't happen.

March 5<sup>th</sup>

Demonstrator TDWC member David Thwaite will do a "Bran Tub" demo with all the lathes out for members to be encouraged to make simple items for the "Bran Tub"

April 9<sup>th</sup> **NB 1 week later than usual due to Easter**

Demonstrator TBC

## COMPETITIONS

March - Any item of Jewellery

April - A Toy

\*\*\*Don't forget there are 3 categories Turning, Carving & General Woodcraft\*\*\*

**Watch this space.**

Your committee are discussing a separate monthly Carving Competition to reflect the amazing increase in this woodcraft.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Harrogate Wood Show Fri 15<sup>th</sup>- Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November

## OUTSIDE EVENTS & CRAFT FAIRS 2024

Thursday 07.03.24 on the concourse in Wythenshawe Forum

TDWC regular monthly pop up stall 10.00-14.00.

Plus it has now been approved and booked for the 1st Thursday of every month in 2024

Past regular attendees include:

Pete Knapman

Andy Wilkins

Brian Ledsham

Ian Adams

John Axon

Ask any of them for further info.

- John Leigh Park Altrincham Picnic in the Park Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June TBC
- Sale Lions Father's Day Family Fun Day Worthington Park Sale Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June date confirmed
- Friends of Ashton on Mersey Park Picnic in the Park Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June date confirmed
- Gatley Festival **sadly cancelled for 2024 due to lack of volunteer organisers**
- New for us in 2024 Heaton's Arts Trail Saturday & Sunday end June/start July exact dates TBC
- Timperley Country Fair, Larkhill Field, Timperley Saturday 14th September exact date TBC
- Friends of Ashton Village Xmas Street Market end November exact date TBC

In February we had 2 visitors Paul & Lewis came to do a 'Show & Tell' around their work adapting CNC input into their woodworking. I have contact details for any member that wishes to get in touch. They emailed the next day as follows.

"Thank you for having us visit you this week. It was a success I think and most of your members found it interesting. We had particular interest in the pen boxes and if the club members wanted to purchase them it would be cheaper if they were bought as one bulk buy. We will do our best to let the members get a good price but we also have to cover our cost and time. I was asked several times by different members about visits to my shed to see how we make the things we do. It's possible but as you know my shed is small and a maximum of 2 members at a time would be a limit. We could also offer your members a full CNC service again at a discounted price, for example sign engraving and lots more.

All the best to you and your members Paul & Lewis"



### For the Diary

watch this space for the 2024 events itinerary.

Out and About Mini Diary <u>OUTSIDE EVENTS &amp; CRAFT FAIRS</u>		
April 4th	Pop-up Table Wythenshawe Forum 10:00 – 14:00	
April 9th	Demonstrator TBA	Competition – Toy
May 7th	Demonstrator TBA	Competition – TBA
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	John Leigh Park Altrincham Picnic in the Park TBC	
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Demonstrator TBA	Competition – TBA
Sunday June 16 <sup>th</sup>	Sale Lions Fathers Day Family Fun Day Worthington Park <i>Confirmed</i>	
Sunday June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Friends of Ashton on Mersey Park Picnic in the Park <i>Confirmed</i>	
June/July	Heaton Arts Trail Saturday/Sunday Dates <i>TBC</i>	

*HUGH THANK YOU to our regular contributors David Thwaite for Chairman's Chat, John Willson for Demo Write ups, John Axon for Demo Photos, Julian Birtwell and Peter Knapman for the calendar and events news. Not forgetting the many contributors of news and items of interest.  
Without your input, we would not be able to publish the newsletter and help us keep in touch with all that the club members are achieving.*

## Trafford & District Woodcraft Club Committee

Club Website: [www.traffordwoodcraft.co.uk](http://www.traffordwoodcraft.co.uk)

Chairman:	DAVID THWAITE	07752 785119
Secretary:	MARTIN NIELD	01925 757542
Treasurer:	DAVID JONES	0161 747 0392
Events Secretary:	JULIAN BIRTWELL	07779 874513
Catering Manager:	LINDA YATES	
Committee Members:	PAUL YATES, ANDY WILKINS, PETE KNAPMAN	
Editor	JOHN AXON	07908794517
To Send Copy	axonjohn@yahoo.co.uk	

### This for YOU...

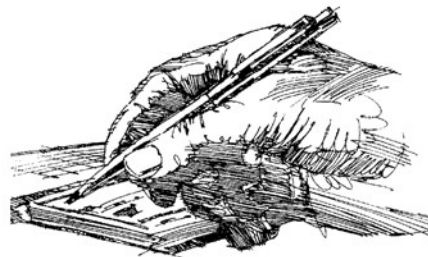
This space is for your photos, articles, news, poems or even questions.

The club would love to hear from you,

– just a few words or a whole article,

the choice is yours

and the space is here...



Send to Axonjohn@yahoo.co.uk or give your contribution to John Axon at club night.

If you want to know more phone 07908794517

For the New Members the “Bran Tub” is a Tub filled with Shredded Paper containing small items that are a “Lucky Dip” Prize.

£1.00 a Try



## TRAFFORD & DISTRICT WOODCRAFT CLUB

2024	TIMETABLED CLUB NIGHTS & OUTDOOR FAIRS/FESTIVALS	MONTHLY COMPETITION 3 Classes - Turning - Carving - General Woodwork
	<b>DEMO nights 1st Tuesdays monthly 18.30 – 22.00. (Feb to Nov)</b> <b>except April due to Easter April's demo is on April 9th</b> <b>2024 Xmas Party on December 17<sup>th</sup> 18.30 – 22.00.</b> <b>All other 'Normal workshop' Tuesdays 18.30 – 21.30</b>	
Mar 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Demo David Thwaite TDWC member</b>	<b>Competition—Jewellery</b>
March 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Pop-up Table Sale Wythenshawe</b>	
Mar 12 <sup>th</sup>	Normal Club Workshop	
Mar 19 <sup>th</sup>	Normal Club Workshop	
Mar 26 <sup>th</sup>	Normal Club Workshop	
Apr 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Normal Club Workshop	
Apr 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Pop-up Table Sale Wythenshawe</b>	
Apr 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Demo TBC</b>	<b>Competition—A Toy</b>
Apr 16 <sup>th</sup>	Normal Club Workshop	
Apr 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Normal Club Workshop	
Apr 30 <sup>th</sup>	Normal Club Workshop	
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Pop-up Table Sale Wythenshawe</b>	
Friday May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collaborative Meeting 2024 at High Peak Woodturners Hazel Grove Nathanael Griffiths Woodturner Winner of Handmade Britain's Best Woodworker</b>	
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Normal Club Workshop	<b>Competition Platter</b>
May 14 <sup>th</sup>	Normal Club Workshop	
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Normal Club Workshop	
May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Normal Club Workshop	