

# Forest of Bere Woodturners Association



**CHRISTMAS 2004 Edition**

## Quarterly Magazine

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Winter Quarter

December 2004

## **CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX**

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## **Editorial**

### **Well Christmas is here at last.**

Those sharp-eyed ones amongst you will have noticed that we have a new advertiser on page 22 this issue, W.L.West & Sons. I have written a short intro for you on page 20 and have included a copy of the company profile from their website on page 21. (so make sure you all read it)



It is with sorrow that I must report that Robin Lacey's wife passed away at the beginning of this month. Dave Hayward's mother also passed away on the same day. I am sure that you will all join me in offering our sincere condolences at this sad time to them both.

How Many of you have entered the turning competitions? Not many I fear, even though the free wood given by Boots seems to disappear from the table every month, not many new entries appear on the table the following month. Now come on chaps show Boots that his efforts have not gone to waste.

Some of you may have heard that my computer has again been Broad banded. I had another major crash due to an EMF spike coming down the cable, which also took out my TV and the cable set top box, as well as my new computer. I am not amused as I have all the latest firewalls and anti virus programme's installed. So beware all of you, we are all vulnerable to attacks. If you do a lot of work on the old keyboard, make sure that you make back-up copies of important work. I apologise to anyone who has not had a reply to Emails, sorry but they are lost with a lot of other data not backed up in time.

**Don't forget to visit the website "[forestofberewoodturners.org.uk](http://forestofberewoodturners.org.uk)"**

**Please keep sending in as much as you can for the mag. Preferably in A5 page format 9 or 10 point, with a 1cm margine all around, on a floppy, CD or Email me direct.**

***Derek Blake, - Editor.***

**Email To [derek.blake57@ntlworld.com](mailto:derek.blake57@ntlworld.com)**

## **A Message from the Chairman**



It hardly seems possible that since writing for Christmas 2003 we are now close to Christmas 2004, and what should be my last message for the festive occasion. When I reflect that I have been in office for over three years it has passed quite quickly, but the reins will soon have to be taken over by someone else.

I have been encouraged by the continued support by all members, and hope that we continue in this direction, because as present members you determine the future of this club. We must all keep planning for the future.

The past year has given us quite a varied programme with a good percentage of evenings being covered by demonstrators of a good standard, backed up by interesting evenings with speakers. A Masterclass with Gary Rance proved to be more than value for money, when Gary produced 10 items through the day. A recent day with Stuart Mortimer in his workshop was equally as entertaining, and I think was improved with the aid of the clubs cameras and T.V. screens. The pub lunch helped complete the day.

Our 2004 programme broke with the norm when we didn't have a skittles evening, due mainly to the venue, also to the lack of contact in dealing with arrangements for the evening. Next year we hope to find an alternative venue. Then the barbecue was cancelled when I found Ray Jones was available that month. I think the change proved to be more popular.

My thanks go to you all for giving me another term in the Chair, but I don't want to bore you by saying that in September another chairman will have to be in place. Also at the moment there is still no vice-chairman, the club must keep progressing.

As in previous years I am not naming names but my thanks go to my committee who make this job a great deal easier, despite some family problems, and any other members who have helped in any way, after all, it is your club, working for your benefit. We now look forward to 2005 and your continued support.

I would like to wish all members and their wives a very Happy Christmas and Health and Happiness for the New Year.

**John Webb**

**Stuart Mortimer**  
**Masterclass Nov04**

By the time we arrived at Stuart Mortimer's workshop a good number of the other guys had already arrived, an area had been cleared for seating and our two cameras with monitors were already set up and working thanks to John our chairman.

*Twenty-two of our club members had a good trip up there and after filling in our lunch orders and had enough time to become very envious of this very well equipped workshop we settled down in front of a professional looking lathe made by One Way.*

*His workshop was the envy of us all with five lathes, five chain saws, five paint sprayers and five grinders. I was beginning to wonder if five was a relevant factor in his life? The first item on the agenda was chucks. It would be more than a coincidence to say we were looking at five but I think it was more like seven. They ranged from our size, as in the likes of you and I up to a monster big enough to take a 7" spigot, were talking a heavy bit of kit. The one way lathe was more than capable of handling this and bigger.*

*A 10" long by 8" diameter Yew log was put between centres. This was used to demonstrate a hollow form with three holes. Various large scrapers/ring tools were used, a number of similar but larger tools were shown.*

The biggest being about 5'6" long with a 1¼ " square bar as a handle, I cant even begin to imagine that tool in use.

This piece was finished using a light bulb inside to show the thickness. It was turned to about one and a half millimetres thick, very impressive.



**The Hollow Form on the Oneway Lathe**

*Next was a natural edge bowl, it was either Ash or Field Maple, 12" long by 8" diameter. The top 1/3 was turned and we stopped for lunch. This was provided by the local pub and was first class in every aspect, piping hot, tasty, good service, and considering there was 22 of us it was served very soon after we arrived and pretty much all at the same time.*



**Natural Edged Bowl with light inside**

By the time we returned and settled in our seats the half turned wet piece of timber on the lathe had cracked around the rim, lesson number one, when turning unseasoned timber, turn it in one go! However it was turned to a lovely shape, again using the light bulb inside to obtain a very thin wall, it was parted off leaving a spigot for a base.



**The Split Rim found after lunch**

We had a quick demonstration using Skew, Half Skew and a new tool of round bar with a point, this I have to try. If the predictions are as good as expected, then I'll be happy, watch this space as they say. Next was a piece of Ash 2"x 2" 18" long turned to a round. This was used to demonstrate the Arbotech wheel in a small disc cutter for producing Barley twists. Following this a piece of Yew 18" long by 7" diameter was put between centres to demonstrate deep bowl turning with spirals, quite impressive but sadly a patch of super glue caught the skew and a member of the audience found a piece of

the spiral in his lap. The principal was explained and we moved on.



**The Arbotech being used on the spindle**



**The Spindle after the Arbotech work**



**The Deep Bowl getting the Arbotech work**



**The Deep Bowl After the Arbotech work**

Another piece of Yew was mounted on the lathe but this time with the grain across the bed, this was to show a natural edged bowl.



**The Blank for the Cross Grained Bowl**



**The Finished Natural Edged Bowl**

The use of the bowl gouge with the side flutes ground right back showed how much easier it is to remove material. Throughout the day we had been shown a good number of specialist tools and grinding techniques. Some will be easy for the likes of us to experiment with, sadly though most are not practical for the hobbyist.



**One of the bowl gouge grinds(flute at the top of the picture)**



**The Rough Finished Hollow Form with holes.**

That was the turning for the day but before we packed up we were given a demonstration of paint spraying, again not really in a form for the hobbyist but quite impressive to see what can be done. It may be possible with spray cans but I have no experience as yet. There were the usual questions and answers all day accompanied by the usual adjustments to the camera positions. A good selection of tools were explained along with the grinding details. There was advice on various methods and tips plus the usual light banter to complete a very good master class.



**The Paint Spraying Demo**



**The Sprayed Lattice Bowl after drying**

Our host Stuart Mortimer and his wife looked after us very well including morning and afternoon tea/coffee with the usual biscuits and cake. I would imagine Stuart makes a good teacher; it may be worth making some enquiries in that direction. Thanks go to those who organised it all so well for us, there's a lot goes on behind the scenes for these events.

*And there goes another good master class.*

**Written by Boots**

**Photos by Ray Mathews**



**Ken Briffett getting some extra tuition from Stuart**



**The TV camera set up gave a good close up of the grinding operation**

Would you like to receive your own personal email **FULL COLOUR** copy of the magazine?

Or would you like to down load a copy from our website?

Contact me at the next meeting or drop me a letter on the email if you would like to try either of these options.

**Derek Blake Ed.**



## **Book Review**

### **Keith Rowley's "Woodturning Projects"**

This book is No.9 in the club library book list, and it is currently rated in first place of the books hired out by our members.

This book was written by Keith not as a book on turning techniques, but as a source of "Other Things To Make" once the basics have been mastered. Those looking for pure techniques should read Keith's first book "Woodturning a Foundation Course".

The 166 pages cover 20 projects, from light pulls to tall thin-stemmed goblets with captive rings. The projects are in ascending order of difficulty. Each project is given a star rating with \* being the easiest and \*\*\*\*\* for the hardest. Keith also gives an estimated time for completing each project.

Almost all the projects are of the "Easy to Sell" items, and as such it is a good place to look if you wish to supplement your income. Or possibly to pay for that expensive chuck you have been wishing for, but could not quite justify the expense.

I found this book very easy to read and it covered aspects such as safety as well as useful addresses for products and equipment.

Keith includes details of jigs and templates, which he considers to be of use to make the projects both easier and more productive.

Keith makes good use of photos and line drawings to show the progress of each project, there are some very good colour shots of the finished projects also.

A very good book, which is reflected in its 1<sup>st</sup> place rating that our members have given it. A book, which will definitely be on my next "wanted for my birthday" list.

**Derek Blake.**

**Editor.**

## **SMALL OPENINGS Removal of Shavings**

By Robin Lacey

### **Watch dem der fingers!!!!**

Master classes, magazine articles, verbals at demo's etc, etc. The words you hear and read – “If you put your fingers in that there hole to get the shavings out, then you'd better watch out”.

A lot of turners, including some professionals, eventually develop a disregard for some safety techniques. For example, when sanding the article they won't bother with the respirator to protect their lungs ('cos it's only a little bit of wood and only a few seconds). When creating forms which have narrow openings, there is a definite tendency to stick the digit in whilst the lathe is still turning, to create a deflector that will throw out the shavings.

Well, there are a few dangers to be aware of when doing this.

- a. If the internal area of your item is relatively small, the shavings can quickly build up into a tight lump, and it can throw your finger into contact with the lip. Ouch!!!
- b. To prevent the above happening, you try to hold the finger very rigid. However, beware if you have good fingernails. If your nail hits the inner wood surface and it is still rough, you face the danger of a splinter going in under the nail. Ouch!!!
- c. *The biggest danger you face is that you could easily break your finger in a split second as it gets twisted.*

### **How to avoid the dangers.**

**DO NOT** stick your finger inside the narrow opening whilst it is still moving.

When stopped, the way that I get out the shavings is to use the modern version of the drinking straw. Use the type that has a concertina section near one end. Put the longer straight bit into your mouth, bend the shorter end and insert it into the opening. Then blow, not too hard 'cos the dusty bits can fly up into your eyes. A bit of practice and you will get the hang of it. If I have to do this many times, then I use my air compressor line and just give it a couple of blasts. (See Photo 1 on next page)

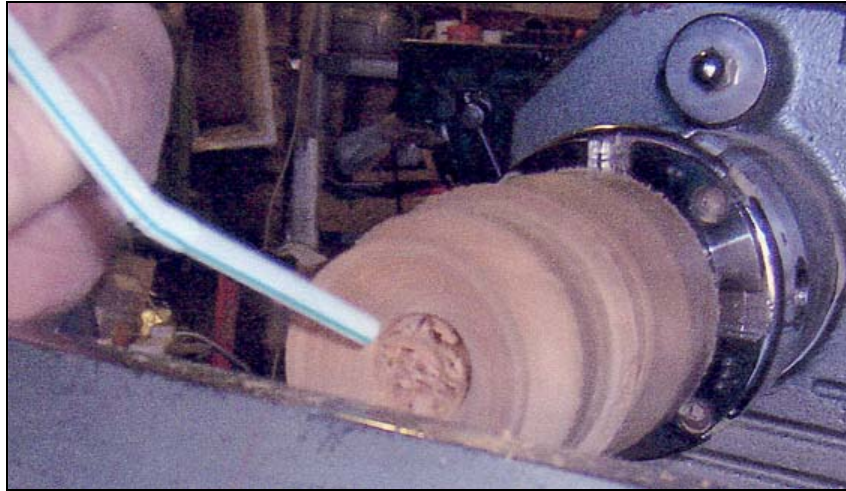


Photo 1



Photo 2

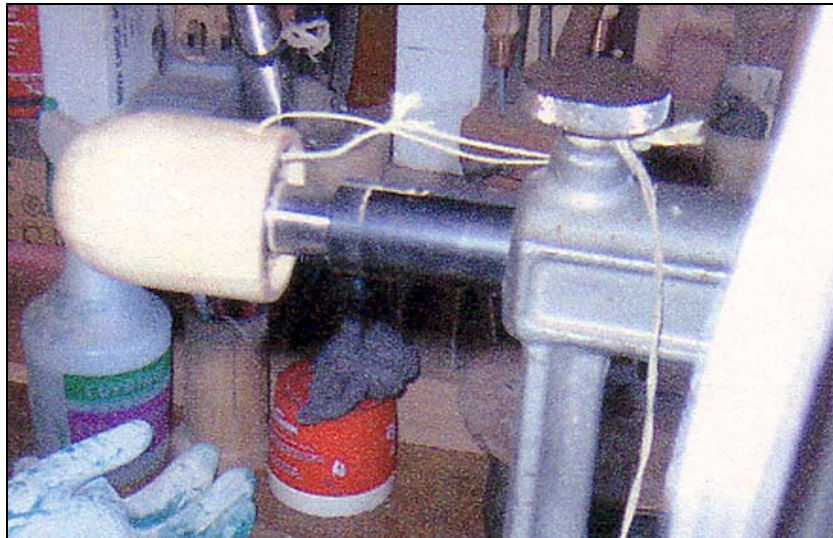
## **PREVENT THOSE TAILSTOCK INJURIES**

By Robin Lacey

For those of you who do not remove your tailstock centre points, especially when you then carry on and do some end grain work (you know, you just slide the tailstock to the end hoping it's well out of the way), you can easily catch the back of your hand against the protruding point, and you then come out with the familiar expletives at the pain and blood.

On my lathe, I have the choice of two different sizes of centre points, one for general work and the other for close in work and which has a long extended point.

I have secured two hardwood protective caps which I turned to the respective diameters (gentle press fit), to the locking levers by nylon string. Whenever I use the tailstock, the caps hang down by the side of the tailstock body out of my way. When I don't want the tailstock, I just slide it to the end of the lathe bed and put the cap over the centre point. (See photo's Below and 2 on previous page)



**The Tailstock Cap fitted onto the Tailstock**

**BY ROBIN LACEY**

**"Hello From"**  
**The Golden Horseshoe Woodturners Guild, Burlington,**  
**Ontario, Canada.**

As you may remember, Don Smith recently announced that he had made contact with a club similar to our own, whilst on holiday in Canada. He asked me to make further contact with them by email, which I have done on your behalf. As a result I reproduce below, their descriptive text which they send out to all enquirers.

The Golden Horseshoe Woodturners Guild is approximately 180 members, with skills ranging from people who have not yet purchased a lathe, to master turners. We meet twice a month except for July and August and in December we just have a Christmas Get Together. On the second Thursday of the month we have a Hands On Night, where informal instruction is given by club members and formal Woodturning 101 classes are conducted in groups of four people. We have been running this program for about two years and have capped new entrants, as it is booked until the fall of next year. We need to give our instructors a break, so that they are free to participate in regular hands on activities. On the third Thursday of the month we have an invited speaker, a Show & Tell Table where members bring their latest works, and a Raffle Table where donated wood is raffled off. We have an extensive library of woodturning books, magazines and videos for loan to members.

Prospective members are invited to attend one of our regular meetings free of charge to gain a better impression of the guild. Annual Dues are \$40 (about £20) and there is a one time initial charge of \$10.00 (about £5). Our Newsletter is called "The Chipflyer". Our meeting location is at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Industrial Street in Burlington. If you come out, look for our current Membership Secretary, Paul Rapattoni (tall and shaved head) and he will give you a visitor badge and can discuss membership details.

As you can see from the above, they are a guild very much like our own association. Their President Michael Brazeau has extended an invitation to anyone who may be visiting Ontario, to drop in and visit them.

At the moment, they do not yet have their website up and running, but it will be later this winter. "WATCH THIS SPACE FOR DETAILS WHEN IT IS," Ed.

In the meantime Michael Brazeau can be contacted by email

**( [mjbrazeau@sympatico.ca](mailto:mjbrazeau@sympatico.ca) )**

***I hope to make this a regular feature page in our magazine, with items of interest from across the Atlantic Ocean.***

**Derek Blake Ed.**

***Ted & Jane Farrow Go White Hunter  
In South Africa.***

Last year Ted & Jane Farrow decided that they wanted to do something other than Woodturning on their holiday. They went Bush in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. They took the 12 hour flight from Heathrow to the "Two Waters Safari Game park", in Eastern Cape South Africa.

Upon arrival they were met at the airport and the holiday began straight away. The accommodation was first class and Jane said that she was treated like royalty, for the whole time they were there. The lodge had its own swimming pool and full service facilities including laundry.

Jane said that it was a very relaxing holiday for her.

On the other hand Ted being a very keen hunter, had a fantastic time going out every day on cull hunts. He managed to bag animals such as Kudu, Impala, Blesbuck, Springbuck, Grey Duiker and Wildebeest.

Ted said that you do not have to shoot with the rifle, as the game park also cater for camera shooting parties also. Ted & Jane enjoyed their experience so much that they have taken on the sole uk agency for the game park.



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**Derek Blake Ed.**

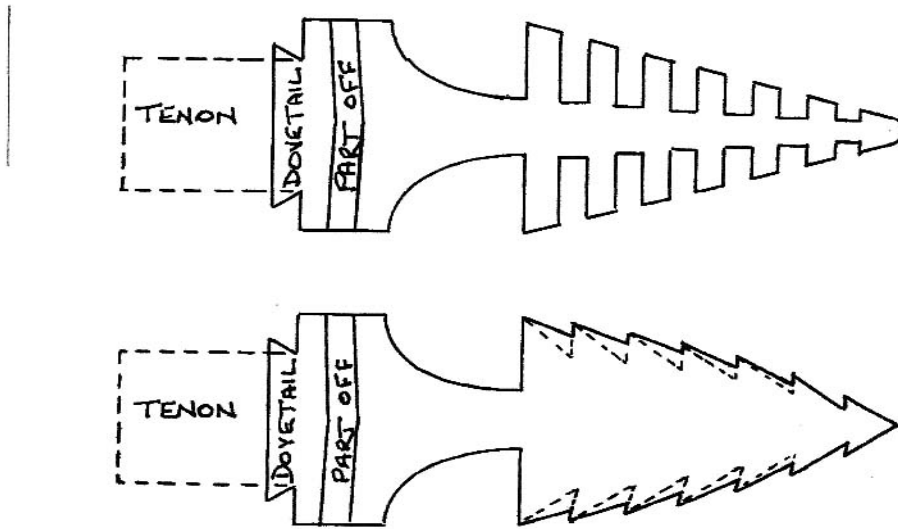
***Visit the club Web Site to read more articles.***

Please visit the website and if you would like to contribute, submit your copy to Boots, either at the club or you can email him, At [mickgiles2001@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mickgiles2001@yahoo.co.uk) Website is [forestofberewoodturners.org.uk](http://forestofberewoodturners.org.uk)

He will be only too pleased to take your article to the web. **Ed.**

## **Making Miniature Christmas Trees**

Two types are shown in the diagrams, both are turned in similar ways and out of a piece of wood 40mm square and 100mm long. First set the wood up for spindle turning and reduce it to a cylinder, and form a dovetail, or some means of holding, at one end. If a tenon is required for a jam chuck or split collet holding then a longer piece of wood is needed.



**MAKE TO VARIOUS SIZES 100 to 150mm HIGH**

Set the chuck on the lathe and hold the wood by one end. The tailstock may be used to give addition stability until the left hand end of the tree has been formed.

Start by tapering the tailstock end (a thick enough piece may be left on at this stage so the tailstock centre may still be used). Mark the positions of the cuts on the taper, keep them equally spaced or on a consistently rising series. For the castellated form, cut in to the required depth with a parting tool. For the other type use either a spindle gouge or a skew chisel taking the toe to the short cuts that are square to the lathe, and the heel to the longer cuts. It may be easier to take a "V" cut first and then cut one side to the required angle. On the longer side remember not to try to cut too much at once – and work parallel to the finishing cut right from the start. To make the tree look better try undercutting the square lengths just a few degrees.

Sand and finish as you will and part off. Try to get a slightly concave shape on the underside so the tree is stable. That is to say cut with the parting tool slightly off square. Finish the underside by hand.

**By John Hilton**

## **ROY WOOD**

### **Competition Turning**

*October 20<sup>th</sup>.2004*

About sixty members turned out tonight despite the heavy downpours we've been having and I managed to get all my gear in without getting to wet. I entered my competition piece and got the novice's wood displayed. I had a large piece of spalted Plane as an example of what I had come across in case any body required a bit. I had four takers there so I'm off to the sawmill to get it ASAP. Lots of chat followed by the chairman's welcome, the usual informative detail from various guys and we're into another good club night

I apologise for repeating myself but once again Ken has done us proud. Tonight's demonstrator was Roy Wood from Wokingham. Roy doesn't profess to be a good woodturner in the sense that he doesn't get on very well with the turning tools. Now you're wondering what's he doing demonstrating at our club, well, truth to tell, on display for all to see was some twenty exquisite examples of his work. Each single item required time to study, first you found yourself almost open-mouthed at the unusual design of the piece and then you wondered how on earth did he do it.



**Roy's Teapot**



**Roy's Jug With Captive Arrow.**



**One of the displays**

To begin Roy gave a brief history of his working life and how he came upon woodturning, he then moved on to show us specific projects he has been asked to make. The first on display was a socket, as in spanner; this was for a shop display. Nothing to get excited about your thinking, wrong! This socket as about 9" in diameter and an exact copy in every detail to the real one. I asked jokingly was it AF or Metric, he replied AF and it was. Now as you can imagine we were all very impressed with this but you can imagine our surprise when he produced a ratchet wrench to accompany the socket.



This wrench was about 5ft long and was a fully working replica of the original; he had a clear sheet over the mechanism so you could see the ratchet and reversing parts in action. At this stage we all new we where in for a good night.



**Roy's Chinese Puzzle Cube.**

Roy explained that he loves geometry and mathematics and usually makes a number of drawings before he starts anything; he is also very inventive when it comes to jigs.

There is always a plan "c" to fall back on because as with most new projects you can guarantee to get a number of those "how am I going to do that" moment that seem to appear from nowhere. No matter what the challenge he will adapt to suit, in his own words, it's a bit like synchronised pole-vaulting on ice.



**Roy's Crocodile**



**The Eiffel Tower Candle sticks.**

He has a sense of humour and was shown in a number of his pieces, sadly being quite subtle they can be missed but never the less a nice touch. He's not afraid to experiment with a project; method or painting, which explains his wide variety of items on display. For example, on display was a glass container that's shape was half way between a foot ball and a rugby ball, there was a hole in each end of the glass and passing right through this was an arrow, inside the container was an apple pierced by the arrow. The ends of the arrow and the apple where bigger than the hole in the glass? So the question is how did he pass the arrow end and the apple through the hole and the apple must have been formed in a similar manner to a captive ring. Now that's patience if ever I saw it. Other helpful attributes he admits to include being devious and obstinate.

Roy has entered a good number of respectable competitions and has understandably won prizes to suit, it seems to me he has become part of the inner circle of recognised turners, and quite rightly so. He is very matter of fact and modest about his turning and is an inspiration to us all. He showed us a beautiful jug he has made for the next competition and we wish him well with it; I will follow this with interest and report the details on this site. His demonstration ended with the usual questions and answers.

As you can imagine and received a well deserved round of applause.



**Cake Stand With Ebonised, Pierced Base.**



**Roy's Jug, made for his next competition**

There was the usual mid way tea break provided by John our chairman and I didn't see whom else, a bit more

chat and of to inspect the competition entries and scores. The obvious like bees round a honey pot of guys chatting to Roy, and I'm pleased to announce that our efforts paid off and we had some entries in the novices. One guy had to abandon his project through ill health at the beginning of the month but made the effort the day before club night to finish it. I noticed a good number of blanks provided for the novices were taken. Eric explained next month's project in detail for the novices so hopefully we may have encouraged more guys to enter. Thank you Eric.



**Some more of Roy's Gallery**

The evening ended with brief details from Don about his contact with a woodturning club in Canada he came across while on holiday there a few weeks ago, it sounds like a good link for both clubs. More on that one as I get it. The competition results and raffle followed this, sadly no winning ticket for me this week. There were the usual chairs away and general tidy up, the heavens opened as we helped to load Roy Wood's' precious pieces into his car, the goodnights and lock up and there goes another good club night.

**Written by Boots October 2004**

**Photos by Ray Mathews**

**Masterclass with MARK HANCOCK**

**22<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2005**

**On Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> 2004 The "Mark Hancock" Masterclass will be held at The St. John Ambulance Hall, Havant.**

**Tickets will be available from "Dave Hayward" at a cost of £17.50p which includes a pub lunch.**

**Seats are limited so book NOW for this very good day out.**

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## ***W.L.WEST & Sons    A New Advertiser***

For some time now our website has been carrying a link with a Timber Merchant/Saw miller called W.L.West & Sons from Selham, Nr. Petworth.

As from this issue of our magazine, we are now carrying a full-page advert for them.

Whilst setting up the advert details with a lady called Jo from W.L.West, it was pointed out to me that we had wrongly given the company initials as (T.D) on page 4 of our spring magazine. We had also given a misleading impression on page 13 of our summer magazine, in an article about the retirement of Bill Thorne. We gave the impression that there was no other supplier in this area to fill the void left by Bill closing his shop. I can only give my heart-felt apologies to W.L.West & Sons.

I have visited their site on a Saturday morning, and I was very impressed by the set up there. It took me about 45 mins. Travelling the 30 miles from Portsmouth to the site, and a lovely ride in the country it was too. The distance is quite comparable with the distance to Bill's old site.

I was very warmly received by 2 young ladies in the shop, and made to feel immediately at home with the words "are you a woodturner sir" (We must all look alike, or could she see the sawdust behind my ears?) followed by a thorough explanation of the layout of the shop and wood blank stores. Well-done ladies!

I recommend you pay them a visit yourselves. Map reproduced from their website below may help, or talk to me at the club, or visit their website for more detailed instruction.

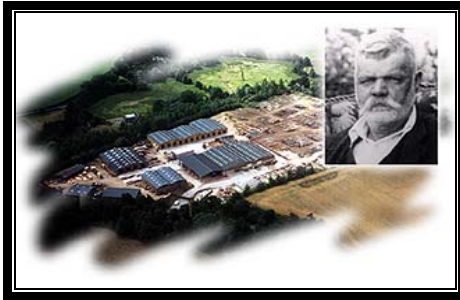
***Derek Blake, Ed.***



**W.L West & Sons Ltd  
Our Company Profile**

*Reproduced from the West Website*

The West family, for as long as anyone can remember, has been involved with timber. In the middle nineteenth century, they were journeyman saw millers, felling timber and sawing from a pit in the woods where the timber was cut.



Earliest company records are dated in 1865. The company in its present form is a traditional home-grown timber merchant who started trading, as W. L. West & Sons, on a permanent site at Midhurst about eighty years ago, sawing round logs by means of pit saws. Mechanisation over the years progressed through steam powered engines and belt driven saws to a fully modern sawmill today. The company was

incorporated in 1956 as a limited company.

In 1986, the Company moved to a much larger twelve acre site at Selham, midway between Midhurst and Petworth (just off the A272), to purpose built sawmills and factory with computerised oil fired kilns.

As well as having extensive outside air drying stocks, over fifty thousand square feet of drying sheds have been erected to hold stocks of air-dried and kiln-dried timbers. Continual growth in the Company has meant that it is now one of the larger temperate hardwoods sawmills in the country and second to none as far as English oak is concerned.

Forward capital project planning has always been designed to ensure that the infrastructure, machinery and stockholding are such that the growing requirements of the market place can easily be met.

It is pleasing that the business is still firmly in family hands, with five of Walter Luke West's grandchildren and three of his great-grandchildren involved in the business. Walter Luke West can be seen in the picture at the top of this page.

# W.L.West & Sons Ltd

Sawmill & Timber Merchants est 1865

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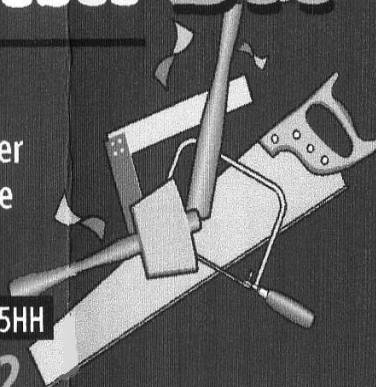
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# The Forest of Bere Woodturners Association

## **Committee**

**2004 - 2005**

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Secretary	Ted Jones	023 9225 2595
Treasurer	Phil Carver	023 9264 7715
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Member	Ken Briffett	023 9248 3625
Member	Alan Croft	023 9255 1494
Member	Dave Hayward	023 9271 9132
Member	Mick Scott	01329 512218

## **Helpers**

Judges	Eric Warnecke, Ken White, Andrew Miller.
Library and Badges	Jim Morris
Club Night Teas	Mick Scott
Raffle	Trevor Dobbs

## **Meetings**

The club meets every Third Wednesday of the Month at Denmead Community Centre, School Lane, Denmead.

Denmead Community Centre Manager, Tel: 023 9225 6132

## **Disclaimer**

Entries in this publication are the opinions of the contributor and are not necessarily approved or endorsed by either the Editor or the Officers of the Club.

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