

# Forest of Bere Woodturners Association



**Summer 2008 Edition**

## Quarterly Magazine

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Summer Quarter

June 2008

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## **Editorial**

### **Summer is here at last with all the usual weather variations.**

I hope that you have all been able to make a few shavings over the last few months. We have certainly been very lucky in our club to have received so many inspirational demonstrations of late.

I was very sorry to have been working on the day of the Tony Wilson Masterclass, by all accounts I sure missed out there.



**I would like to thank Rick Smith for his assistance in producing this magazine issue, Rick is contemplating having a go at editing it in the future.**

**Or at least he was until I set him a few practice tasks, I am not at all sure now though. All my fingers and toes are crossed that he is still keen.**

### **Thanks for shadowing me Rick!**

Our club has grown like the proverbial Pinocchio's nose of late. With a capacity membership we should go from strength to strength. It is a shame though that the Masterclass was not fully attended this time.

We have a few members that are in need of our prayers and healing thoughts at the moment, so please spare a thought for, Angy Richards & John Hilton, to name just two. If you know of anyone I have missed please drop me an email.

John Davis is having a Summer show in July, details are on page 11 of this issue. I am sure that everyone will wish him all the best with the show, and hopefully many will be able to attend it.

Finally I would like to thank all the new subscribers to the magazine. This issue has seen a surge of cub reporters I am glad to say, well done to them all. I am sorry if I did not find room for all the articles that you sent in, but they will go into the September issue I promise.

**Derek Blake – Editor.**

**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, DVD or Email me direct.Or even Hand Written copy.*

**E-mail : [derek.blake57@ntlworld.com](mailto:derek.blake57@ntlworld.com)**

## **A Message from the Chairman**

Well here we are half way through this year and we have had a wonderful year so far. The club has come on in leaps and bounds with our membership now standing at 110. A big thank you must go to all our members for the way that they rally around at the beginning and the end of our meetings helping to erect and put everything away, it certainly helps the evening run smoothly.



It was with sadness that I had to announce the passing of one of our founder members Alan Stroud; we sent his family our condolences.

Since the last magazine was published we have held our Open Weekend and it was a huge success and thanks to Mick Giles for all his effort plus all the other members who helped in making such a great event, looking forward to next years. I would also like to voice my thanks to Staff and pupils of Warblington School for the magnificent backcloth that they painted for us.

In my last report I forgot to mention the visit by Stuart King who visited us in March and our thanks go to him for coming down early and for demonstrating at Warblington School before coming to us in the evening. His turning techniques and projects were exceptional. April's meeting organized by Bill Thorne was a Turn-in and was a very successful evening.

On Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> May Tony Wilson came along and demonstrated his turning techniques and his sense of humour it was a very entertaining day with everyone enjoying it and the lunch was again excellent, and a big thank you goes to John & Joy Webb for putting Tony and his wife Elaine up over Friday evening. For those members who didn't make the day you really do not know what you missed so to find out come along to the next one when our demonstrator will be Phil Irons, Date for your diary November 1<sup>st</sup> more details nearer the time.

At our club meeting in May we welcomed along Paul Reeves from the Christchurch Woodturners who gave us all a new slant on how to turn Boat shaped items using leaf designs. It was a very interesting evening. I have put out a challenge for the Christmas meeting of turning a Holly Shaped Candlestick so why not have a go and enter; you have 6 months to perfect the item.

I must just mention the Junior Club, which is going from strength to strength, and thank all those members who give of their time on the Saturday morning to help and to Mick Giles for his enthusiasm in running the Junior club.

The last thing that I would like to mention is that this magazine has gone from strength to strength over the past years mainly due to Derek Blake's input and it would be a pity to see it disappear due to the lack of recruiting an editor. However it is possible that we may have found a replacement for Derek, we will know more after the publication of this issue.

Derek will still be Editor in Chief for the next issue due in September, hopefully with the Shadow Editor helping him out.

You can of course still go to our Web site for information and follow the links.

I am sorry that I will not be there with you this evening but I am sure that you will be well entertained by one of our own members Peter Hurrell please make him as welcome as you would do a guest speaker.

Have a safe journey home and will see you all in July when Paul Nesbitt will be here again giving us another extra competition piece to turn for the August meeting.

**Don Smith – Chairman**

## **A Masterclass with TONY WILSON**

May 17<sup>th</sup> 2008 will be engraved on the minds of many Portsmouth citizens as the day that the FA Cup returned to the city after 69 years. For the members that came to the clubhouse on that day it will be remembered for many other reasons!



For his first project of the day, Tony demonstrated what you could do with a parallelogram cut at 45 degrees from 5-inch wide planks. Have a look at the photograph to see the result. A club member turned a similar piece, which was shown at the May meeting. To begin, first mount the block on a faceplate and cut the wings on the longest dimension, then reverse to complete the wings. The wings should end up no thinner than 1/4" to 3/8". They can be power sanded as necessary.

**Safety Point:** Mark the tool rest with a thick black line to indicate the extent of the wings, as there will only be a ghost image of the swept volume of the piece.

He showed how the design may be changed to allow a candle holder to be fitted; alternatively cut it all away to produce a simple bowl, or you can turn it into a fancy box. He showed how to create a lid that was some 9-inches high with special finial. A splendid design. If you produce this for a candle, then you must fit a brass insert with a spike for the candle. He used spherical candles that fit in well with the overall design and they can be sourced relatively cheaply at IKEA.

His next project was to turn a large couscous bowl mounted on a heavy base, completed as two pieces, and glued - a very simple design that stands the test of time. Tony uses food safe finish for designs that may be used to contain food items, nuts, sweets etc.

At lunch Dave Jenkins and I were lucky to sit next to Tony, and learnt a lot more about his life. Since his accident at the mine he has accomplished many things that he would never have done. He has taken a degree and is now a qualified teacher for both the blind and / or deaf. It was fascinating to hear of his travels with woodturning. As he said, "Not bad for a mine-worker from Doncaster!"

After a fantastic lunch (Thanks Ladies.) he showed us how to turn a three cornered bowl from a cube of ash. The hint here is to sand a flat part on two opposite corners and then turn between centres. The result was outstanding.



How to deal with “Tear Out”? He suggested that if you get tear out then this tends to be from a softer part of the wood and is often combined with too slow a turning speed. Apply sanding sealer on the torn out area. Sharpen your tool and then take a fine cut. The sanding sealer has the effect of drying out the area, and then as you cut - it is like peeling an apple or potato.

What about “The Spindlemaster”? Tony explained the heritage of the tool, and then told us about the importance of the bevel being smooth when it came to using tool. Aluminium Oxide paper stuck to MDF flat discs mounted on a screw chuck. Starting at 240 and 320 to get a reasonable shine. This was then finished off on a leather disc with honing compound. The rubbing of the bevel on the wood seems to give a better finish. A larger area bevel was proposed as being something that we should all consider trying.



Apples and pears are part of Tony's stock-in-trade. He showed us his special deep chuck that is fitted with pieces of bicycle inner tube on the inner face of each jaw to grip the fruit without damaging it. The fruit can be mounted “off-centre” in order to turn to give a more lifelike piece of fruit – they are not all symmetrical. You can fit a piece of dowel inside the inner tube to cope easily with different diameters of fruit.



He then showed a novel way of creating the leaves and stalk for the apples, suggesting that hawthorn was an excellent choice for this. If there is a picture, see if you can guess how it's done? This was followed by a demonstration of how to turn onions. These were turned on a 7mm pen mandrel between centres. The inspired part was to use pieces of raffia plaited together for the leaves. Excellent.



It was a fascinating day that all of us will treasure. I also came away with a gift from Tony of a selection of various grades of Abranet. Many members will already know about it, but others like me who are new this woodturning lark have a lot to learn.

If you've never attended a Masterclass before, make a pact with yourself to attend the next one. You won't regret it. You may come away with more than you bargained for!

**Written By John Collyer**

**Photos by John Webb and Ray Matthews**

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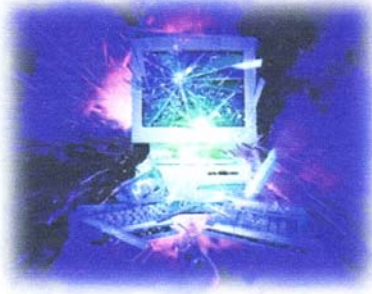
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**Summer Show 4<sup>th</sup>. & 5<sup>th</sup>. July 2008**



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## **FULL COLOUR copy of magazine?**

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***[www.forestofberewoodturners.org.uk](http://www.forestofberewoodturners.org.uk)***

Contact Mick Giles at the next meeting or drop him e-mail if you have any problem obtaining your copy.

Please visit the club website, and if you would like to contribute, submit your copy to Boots, either at the club or you can email him, at [mickgiles2008@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mickgiles2008@yahoo.co.uk)

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

## **Summer Show at John Davis workshop**

***John Davis is holding a Summer Show on Friday/Saturday***

***4/5th . July 2008.***

**At**

**John Davis Woodturning Centre  
The Old Stables, Chilbolton Down Farm  
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Tel **01264 811070**

***There will be demonstrations by, Nick Agar & Les Thorne.***

***And our very own Mick Giles will be demonstrating his  
"Turning Initiative 2008"***

*There will be displays by Robert Sorby, Chestnut Products and  
Crown Tools.*

*And of course John Davis will be on hand to help you choose  
which goodies you really can't do without.*

*10am. To 4.30pm.*

**ADMISSION FREE**

**For Sale, A Woodturning set up with everything needed to get started. Must Sell room needed**

*Andy Murdoch has again asked me to re-advertise his full woodturning set up for sale. **£200.00 or near offer. For Everything listed below and in the photos.***

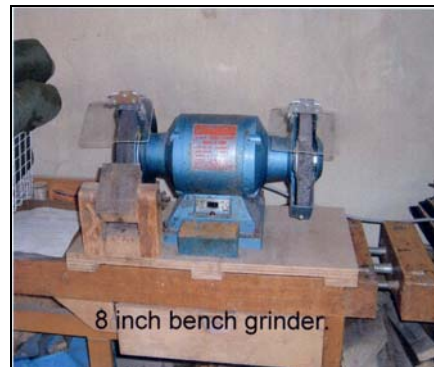
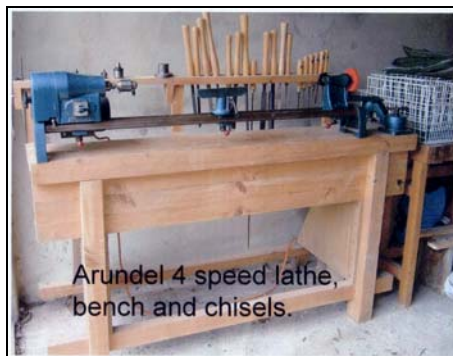
ARUNDEL 4 SPEED LATHE

Approx 48inch Bed, with an approx 4½ inch centre to bed clearance allowing approx 9 inch turning over bed which can be increased by use of the out board turning attachment. In near new condition complete with approx 18 chisels including Sorby ring tool and 6 mini turning chisels, various drives and centres. Included is a substantial purpose built wooden bench, which is fitted with an Arundel outboard, turning attachment. Also included is an 8inch two stone dry bench grinder

Also a selection of wood in all sizes to get you going straight away.

*This really is a good buy for anyone just getting started, or for someone returning to woodturning, as it has almost everything you might need.*

*I myself learned to turn using one of these Arundel lathes, and found it a joy to work on.*



Contact Andy on 023 9235 2753 Or talk to me at the club. Derek Blake. Ed.

## **THE SWAMP OR ANCIENT KAURI TREE**

Like our David Jenkins (Ref. Cub magazine, Summer, 2004, Page 20) I too recently had a holiday travelling through South and North Islands of New Zealand and came in contact with the Kauri tree.

The so called Swamp or Ancient Kauri timber, unique to New Zealand, North Island, north of Latitude 37 south, is widely used for many household items including furniture, arts and crafts and of course wood turning due to its fine grain, colour hues in differing shades of light. It is the oldest known workable timber in the World.

The history of this type of Kauri tree and how the forests of these very large trees, with girths ranging in at around eleven metres and weighing in around 140 tonnes come to fall in no particular direction over each other, before the last ice age, is a mystery to the experts. The recovery of this precious resource is carried out with heavy plant machinery due to the size of the trees involved. The trees that are removed are around thirty thousand to more than fifty thousand years old. This has been verified by carbon dating in Australia and New Zealand.



Kauri Trees Awaiting Processing

There are still Kauris growing in preserved locations in North Island, one being the Puketi Kauri Forest, where you can walk around huge trees over one thousand years old.

The Kauri tree was nearly cut down to extinction in the nineteenth century and early twentieth century due to the trees growing straight and parallel with no branches in the lower trunk. This made the tree ideal for replacement ship masts and spars. Another product from the tree was the special sap that could be processed for varnish and an oil for oil lamps. At one time it was more valuable than gold. Today though there is a programme to plant and preserve these wonderful trees for much later generations. They take about three hundred years to mature so it will be many generations in the future to appreciate the work being carried out now.

Other snippets of information

1. New Zealand has a problem with the nocturnal Australian Possum, which was introduced in 1837 for the fur trade. It is classed as a pest as it has no natural enemies and it is devastating large areas of trees by eating thousands of tonnes of new shoots and leaves each year killing the vast areas of trees. Also, as much of the electricity out of town is carried by wooden or concrete poles the electric companies have had to secure large bands of metal on the poles to prevent the possums climbing and shorting out the power cables. They do not like cleaning up fried possums!
2. A tip from a Maori coach driver while passing a tung oil tree plantation (native of China, Aleurites Fordii, producing unsaturated seed oil). When using tung oil from a can/container, after use, throw in clean nuts or bolts etc. to bring the level of the oil up to the filler cap. This prevents the oil crystallizing in the air gap so giving the oil a longer usable life.
3. There were no four legged mammals in New Zealand until man inhabited both islands.
4. Question- What do you call a possum run over on the road? Answer- A possum pizza.
5. Question- What is the name of one of the ferries that sail between North and South Island? Answer- The Waitaki (the old Portsmouth P&O based Pride of Cherbourg).
6. More detailed information with pictures on Kauri trees can be found on [www.ancientkauri.co.nz](http://www.ancientkauri.co.nz)

Happy turning

***Written By Trevor Dobbs***

**Masterclass with PHIL IRONS**  
**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup>. November 2008**

**On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup>. November 2008 The "Phil Irons" Masterclass will be held at The St.John Ambulance Hall, Havant.**

**Tickets will be available from "Tony Skerrett" at a cost of £18, which includes lunch.**

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

**OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

**For Sale**

**Lathes and various Machine Tools**

**There are a great number of tools etc for sale at the moment within the club, too many to mention here. Sorry!**

Potential buyers please check out the club notice board on club night or visit the club website for a full listing of these tools.

Sellers please pass your listing to Mick Giles to add to the website and put a copy on the notice board (remember to remove when item sold).

**A Warm Welcome to New Members.**

On behalf of the club, I would like to welcome the following new members, who have joined since the March 08 issue of the magazine.

**Kieth Waterman, David Richards, Alan Brown, Jack Day, Brian Bocking, John Daniells, Arthur Newland, Kate Small, Tom Fisher, Martin Grainger, Lian Zhang, Doug Boniface, John Piddington, Roger West, & Edward Norman.**

I hope that you are finding the club to your liking, and maybe have already made some new friends.

Please feel free to contact any of the committee if you have any questions etc.

The committee contact details are on the back page of this magazine.

*Derek Blake - Editor.*

**New Members are the lifeblood of our club, do "YOU" know of anyone who might like to come along for a visit?**

## **Forthcoming Competition Programme.**

*If anyone has a problem with obtaining the wood for these projects, or has difficulty holding the pieces on their lathes, please feel free to contact me on 02392 483625. Or any of the competition staff. –Also if anyone is unhappy with the projects set for the competitions, or feels that they are too advanced for the group, please do not keep it to yourself, come and talk to us about your feelings.*  
**Ken Briffett**

**Beginners** “Please see the competition programme”

### **July 08 Needle Case**

A small diameter turned piece with a well fitting turned cap capable of holding several sewing needles. This could be two pieces with a blind hole or three pieces with a separate, turned end plug. For a firm-fitting lid think about fitting internal or external rubber ‘O’ rings or a form of locking or clipping device.

### **August 08 Earring Stand**

Traditionally made like a mini carousel but providing your design has a stable base and a suitable place to hang earrings, why should it not be completely different?

### **September 08 Decorative Miniature Birdhouse. 100mm. total height.**

Suspended on a cord or fitted to a rod, this project gives scope for decorative turned finials. Before turning the box cylinder drill the entrance hole and the perch hole if required. Decide whether to turn a cylinder with ‘end caps’ or a box with a ‘lid’. The height to width ratio of ‘the box’ will determine the delicacy or stubbiness of the finials.

## **Competition Program 2007/2008**

### **Beginners / Novices**

Jul 08	Needle case.
Aug 08	Earring Stand. Constructed from three separately turned pieces.

Start of new competition year 2008 / 09

Sep 08	A decorative miniature Bird House. Total height 100mm. Members moving to Intermediate will be notified at August meeting and should follow intermediate / advanced programme.
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**Intermediate/Advanced** "Please see the Competition Programme"

**July 08 Pair of 'Thermed' turnings with extra spindle work.**

An extension to the Feb 07 set piece that created interest. (Notes on Thermoforming are in the Club Magazine Dec 06). After Thermoforming the two pieces, remount them separately between centres. Turn to final design remembering this is a pair.

**August 08 Laminated Twist.** Reference "Techniques of Spiral Work" by Stuart Mortimer. ISBN 085442-063.0

Use two woods contrasting in colour but with similar grain. Drill an accurate hole down the grain of 120mm plus square stock. Turn a dowel of any length from the contrasting wood and glue into the hole. True the glued up stock between centres. Mark out and cut the twist to expose the inner dowel. Incorporate the final shaped piece into an object. A double barley twist works well.

**September 08 3 miniature birdhouses – suspended.**

Similar to the Beginners / Novice but a composite of 3 birdhouses on a turned wall bracket. Please read Beginners notes. All pieces should be finely turned, be harmonious and have a jewellery box type quality.

<b><u>Competition Program 2007/2008</u></b>	
<b><u>Intermediate / Advanced</u></b>	
Jul 08	A pair of Thermed Turnings incorporating extra spindle turning.
Aug 08	Combine a 120mm long laminated twist into an object of your choice.

Start of new competition year 2008 / 09

Sep 08	Three 100mm decorative miniature Birdhouses, suspended from a turned Wall Bracket.
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Thoughts and suggestions for future competition pieces are always welcome.

**Ken Briffet**

## **Another Good Club Night March 2008**

Today was a busy day, Don and I met at the club house to load the Draper lathe into my van, just as we finished and to schedule Stuart King arrived. We all went back to Don's for lunch before travelling over to Warblington School; Stuart had agreed to do a free demo there, all to do with the back drop the pupils painted for our Open Weekend. The demo went well, a good number came forward to see close up how it was done, Stuart gave an interesting example of turning so I can see the Forest turners returning in the near future. Before we cleared away we were taken to the big hall to look at the back drop, it was amazing, even close up it's very real looking, this has been a brilliant project for the school, I'm sure we will remain in contact and build on this first encounter.

Just a few minutes drive and we are back at Don's for the evening meal, Stuart is a very interesting person to talk to, he's so enthusiastic about everything. With the meal all done and the washing up dried we're off the hall. The kettle is on and everything starts appearing out of every nook and cranny, tables loaded with weekend stuff and the hall very soon becomes like Waterloo Station in the rush hour, minus the trains though.

Very soon Don is saying Hello and getting the chat out of the way, Bill said a few words about the Turn-in's and I mentioned the Open weekend and Ken's brilliant show of

half bowl variations. Over to Stuart King, Stuart started with a few well chosen words and got stuck into his demo, he showed us a piece of spindle work done on a bow lathe, he explained it and remarked how quickly it's done. Stuart did a similar piece but it took longer on the electric driven lathe? Stuart turned a number of pieces this evening showing the intricate shapes that can be achieved, but for me it was the goblet made from green timber, Apple I think he said, cut down and wrapped in pallet wrap, I'll have to get me some of that, it was a well balanced piece and beautifully finished straight off the tool, what else?



**Stuart Hollowing.**

As expected Stuart's demo was very entertaining, a good interaction between demonstrator and members, I think that's helped by a friendly club atmosphere. He finished with what are becoming signature pieces, flowers, people do love to watch him turn flowers, and we all wait for that garden trowel don't we, classic eye catcher that, brilliant. It was obvious by the applause as Stuart concluded that he's a very popular demonstrator.



**A colourful flower**

Don thanked Stuart which was complimented with yet more applause. The last few notices were read out and a reminder of times for setting up the hall for the weekend, then it was over to Trevor for the raffle, no numbers for me this time, the hall was cleared apart from the lathe, this was to be used the following night.

Don, Bill and I spent the following evening introducing the young St John members to pyrography and wood turning, I have to say they are a very well behaved group of youngsters between 9 & 13 years old, I think we have one more for our junior club, one very busy young man so enthusiastic and very quickly thinks things through, he will

be a real asset in years to come, plus you have to feed this exceptional attitude.



**A Christmas tree**

With the hall cleared, swept and chairs away we checked the doors, windows and kitchen, discussed the last few things to sort and then lights out and lock the doors, and there goes another good club night.

Photos by **Boots**

Written By **Boots**

## **WOOD FOR TURNING**

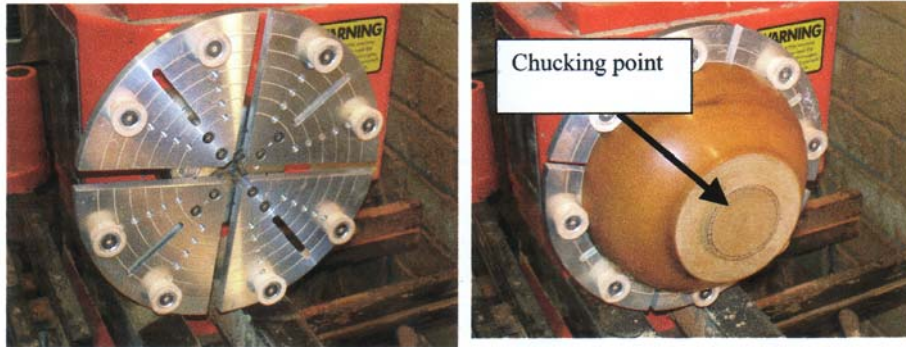
I have recently acquired a stock of (mahogany), probably Sapele or Utile also some Oak, Ash, Beech, and others. If interested please phone Mike Haselden on 02380 464491. A small charity donation may be accepted. I can also cut to your requirements.

**Mike Haselden**

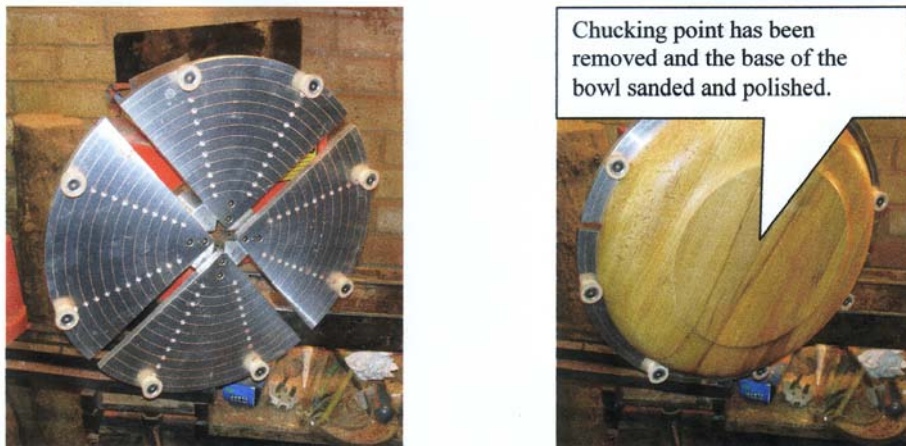
## Axminster Button Jaws

This article is aimed at fellow woodturners who either have the Axminster button jaws or who are considering purchasing them. The button jaws are designed to hold the rim of a bowl securely whilst the base is tided up – for example to remove the chucking point. This is referred to as reverse chucking.

Axminster produce two sets of button jaws – one 250mm diameter and the other 400mm diameter. The button jaws fit onto the Axminster 100mm accessory jaws. Each set of button jaws is made up of four plates, each being a quarter of a circle. Two white rubber buttons can be fitted in tapped holes on each plate – 6 holes in concentric circles for the smaller plate and 12 holes for the larger set of plates. These sets of holes can be seen on the left hand picture below, which is the 250mm button jaws. The right hand picture shows the same jaws with a bowl mounted ready for removal of the chucking point.



The smaller set of jaws fit onto my Myford Mystro lathe with the head over the bars, as shown above. In order to fit the larger jaws, I have to turn the head to 45 degrees relative to the bars. This is shown below, without and with a bowl reverse chucked.



The following table gives the minimum and maximum bowl diameters that can be fitted with the buttons in each of the concentric set of holes drilled into each set of button jaws. Two dimensions are given for each set of holes. 'Jaws closed' is where the chuck has been tightened so that the diameter is at a minimum and 'Jaws open' is where the chuck has been opened to the maximum safe limit. Location 1 is the set of holes closest to the centre of the jaws and the last number given is the largest diameter.

Location of hole	250mm diameter jaws		400mm diameter jaws	
	Jaws closed	Jaws fully open	Jaws closed	Jaws fully open
1	65mm	88mm	75mm	100mm
2	88mm	112mm	100mm	125mm
3	112mm	135mm	125mm	150mm
4	135mm	160mm	150mm	175mm
5	160mm	185mm	175mm	200mm
6	185mm	210mm	200mm	225mm
7	-	-	225mm	250mm
8	-	-	250mm	275mm
9	-	-	275mm	300mm
10	-	-	300mm	325mm
11	-	-	325mm	350mm
12	-	-	350mm	375mm

If in the event you want to reverse chuck a bowl even larger than 375mm diameter, Axminster sell 100mm and 150mm wood jaw plates so that you can mount four segments of wood and make your own reverse chucking jaws. Note - I think that the segments of wood can also be fitted to either of the button jaws by purchase of eight tapped bolts of the correct thread to fit the wood to the jaws. Please note that I have not tried this so cannot report on the effectiveness of this idea.

***Written and Photographed By Ronald Hewlett***

### **Turn Out Your Feelings**

*This is your section to let us know your REAL views on any subject*



Please feel free to agree or disagree with any issues. I will publish letters sent to me without bias or favour. –Derek (editor)

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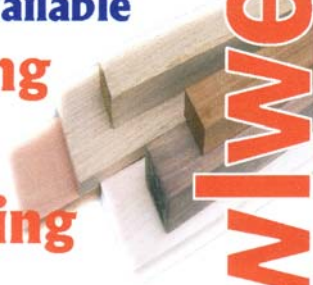
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# The Forest of Bere Woodturners Association

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**2007 - 2008**

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## **Helpers**

Chief Judge	Eric Warnecke	Helped by Pete Withers
Library and Badges	Jim Morris	
Club Night Teas	Volunteers on the night	
Raffle	Trevor Dobbs	

## **Meetings**

The club meets every Third Wednesday of the Month at The St.John Ambulance Hall, Fraser Road, Bedhampton, Havant, Hants. PO9 3EJ (Opposite the Rugby Club)

## **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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