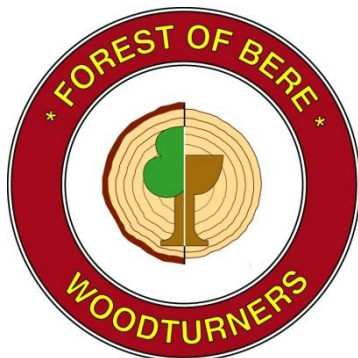


# Forest of Bere Woodturners Association



*Winter 2013 Edition*

## Quarterly Magazine

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**Welcome** to the winter issue of our magazine.

The answer really should be “no thank you”.

Long lengths of timber for fencing and apiary work are stacked down the centre. Winter storage of hive supers and frames, and, the garaging of a shiny new trailer, necessitated a degree of ‘piling up’ to make room at one end. The well-meant donation of a quantity of hardwood ex-window and door frames fills the other end. These frames, rather time consuming and messy to recycle, actually result in some fine timber. So, “would you like some wood”? Am I the only one who finds it difficult to say “no thank you”?



In this issue Bill Thorne shows us how he deals with freshly cut timber and in the next issue he will continue with the process of converting it into dry and stable stock. Bill also gives an insight into making apples, pears and sanding sticks, I suspect that piles of timber quickly move through his workshop.

John Hilton takes a look at the process of preparing an article for the magazine or the website, I look forward to any resulting email traffic! John goes on to describe the making of Tea Lights, decorative, confidence-building items.

David Comley describes the making of the Walter Howarth Trophy, a large off-centre project and we have sound woodturning tips and advice from both Don Smith and Eric Warnecke and the 2014 challenge from Ken Briffett.

Over the past year twenty new members have joined the club, approximately one sixth of the membership, this is most encouraging. I hope you are all aware of and able to make good use of the club facilities. The monthly competitions in particular provide an excellent training schedule with the opportunity to get first hand advice and inspiration from our own inter-club, prize winning woodturners. Back copies of the magazine are available as .pdf files and they contain a wealth of advice and projects that could also be of benefit. Although still a work in progress, six years of magazine articles are now indexed on a spreadsheet and form a useful resource.

**Rick Smith**

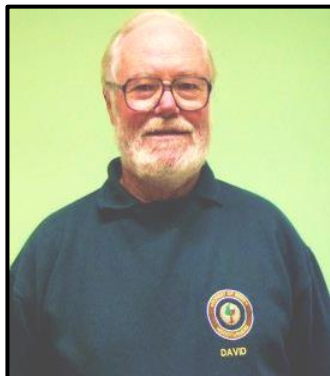
Visit the club website, this magazine and back issues are available in full colour PDF format along with much much more.

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

## A Message from the Chairman

As Chairman I would like to take this opportunity to WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

2013 has been a very eventful and busy year with a full and successful programme of visiting Professional Woodturners and club members who gave excellent demonstrations. Three of our members have recently qualified as demonstrators through the AWGB, congratulations go to Derek Blake, John Wyatt, Mike Haselden and thank you to David Comely for his demonstration.



My thanks go once again to Vice Chairman Don Smith and the Committee Members who have given up their spare time to ensure the club continues to stay on an even keel and to provide an interesting programme of events. My sincere thanks go to you the Members, who continue to support our club and make it successful. The attendance at Club nights remains steady at around 60 to 80 members with at least 100 members attending one demonstration. The two Masterclasses were successful and more are programmed for 2014. Thank you to our helpers, namely the Competition Judges Eric Warnecke, John Wyatt and Malcolm Bryant, and to Jim Casemore for running, updating and cataloguing the Library and to Arthur Pike for running the Raffles.

Well done to all of you who entered the Club Competitions it kept the Judges busy every club night.

The Saturday Club continues to be very successful with the new members enjoying the friendly tuition. Once again thank you to all the members who have given up their Saturdays to pass on their skills and knowledge. The new programme has been published and sets more challenges. The magazine is being maintained at a high standard, which is down to the efforts of Rick Smith, Ray Matthews and Roy Merritt, and especially, all the contributors.

I would like thank, on your behalf, Derek Blake who has left the club recently, for all his sterling work both as a Committee Member and Magazine Editor and for his teaching and demonstrating, primarily Pen Turning but also in the art of turning small fun items such as spinning tops. We wish Derek and Janet well and hope they enjoy their new hobbies together.

The Website continues to be updated by the Webmaster including the 2014 programmes, thank you to David Hutchings and please keep him busy your your photographs and material for posting.

Our Christmas Social on 11th December was successful, although a few more members attending would have been appreciated.

Disappointingly the gallery competitions only received two entries, 1<sup>st</sup> place was awarded to Don Smith in both competitions with 2<sup>nd</sup> prize going to Paul Nesbitt. A thought provoking quiz was organised by Don Smith. The Raffle with 49 prizes donated by members, was a great success. Paul Nesbitt who was our guest for the evening presented the Surrey Woodturners Open Day 2nd and 3rd place certificates in the Open competition to John Wyatt and Mike Haselden, and, The Inter-Club Competition Trophy was retained by us, FoBWTA, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running. Thank you to all members who represented the Club, the turnings they entered and the table display were of a very high standard. Thank you to Aline for running the buffet and to all the persons who helped provide extra food. Well 2014 has a full and busy programme planned and I hope you will support the club as you have done in previous years.

Thank You All!

**David Jenkins Chairman**

### **Obituary**

It is with sadness that I have to announce the passing of Phillip Carver who joined the FOBWA in 1996. Phil was elected treasurer in September 2004 until September 2007 when he resigned. He was made a Life member in 2007 continuing to attend club nights and always booked his place at the Masterclasses up until 2010 when poor health started to hinder his going out. Our thoughts are with his family at this sad time and wish them all the very best for Christmas. His funeral was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> December and was well attended by many members of the club.

**Don Smith**

**Visit the club website**

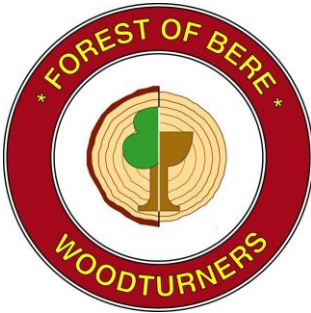
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Please note that **JOHN DAVIS** has a new website

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Email

[admin@johndaviswoodturning.com](mailto:admin@johndaviswoodturning.com)

**A Warm Welcome to New Members**

**Dave Goolstone • Tony Le-Fevre • Graham Benzeval  
Brian Burley • Shane Parks**

I hope the friendship, the activities and the resources of the club will help you to further enjoy and develop your woodturning.

**Your feedback on any aspect of the club will be most welcome**

## Saturday Club

A Beginners Class is run once a month, normally a Saturday morning, 9.00am – 1.00pm. The training covers a range of basic woodturning techniques, starting with tool control and sharpening, aiming to help the students become safe, confident and proficient in the art of Woodturning.

Bring your own tools for turning and, if required, guidance on sharpening them. Bring your own wood or a practice blank for guidance or advice on a specific project. There is a £5.00 charge to cover the hire of the hall and refreshments. **Help with setting up and storing the equipment is very much appreciated.** See the Training and Competition pages at the website for more details.

### Saturday Club Dates

2014

Jan 11th	July 12th
Feb 8 <sup>th</sup>	Aug 9th
Mar 8 <sup>th</sup>	Sept 13th
Apr 12 <sup>th</sup>	Oct 11th
May 10th	Nov 8th
June 14th	Dec 13th

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**All new members are welcome!**

### **Tips on Keeping a Healthy Lathe**

Using a bottle brush clean both the headstock and tailstock internal Morse tapers to remove all the dust particles. This will give a better contact between the sleeve and the internal part of the taper.

Take a slim line wire brush and clean the thread on the headstock making sure that you remove all the dust that has built up over the days or weeks whilst you have been using the lathe.

Remove the banjo from the lathe and using “0000” wire wool clean off all the built up dust which has gathered on the underside and also the lathe bed. Whilst you have the steel wool in your hands clean the Spigot of the tool rest and along the top also. If you find that you have a few indents along the top of the rest use a file and either by draw filing or cross filing remove as much of the faults as possible bringing it back to a true surface. Using a lightly oiled rag wipe over all the surfaces of the bed and the banjo before replacing it back on the lathe.

Take off your chuck and if you have an airline blow out the dust from inside the threaded area also from between the Jaw mounts. If you haven't an air line then take a drinking straw and try blowing through it to clear the dust away. The bottle brush would also help to clean out the threaded area.



Check that all drive centres are sharp and free of burrs also that revolving centres are clean and running free. If you use spring loaded Steb centres make certain that they are working properly if not a light spray of WD 40 will help overcome the problem, clean the teeth at the same time.

I hope this helps the new comers to woodturning in keeping their machines in pristine condition.

### **Don Smith**

#### **Apples and Pears**

- This freshly cut ash branch with a rotted centre was cut into approximately 6 in. lengths
- On the bandsaw, square off the blank, for pears it is best if the hole is more to one side.
- Dig out and use a blow lamp to burn away the decay from the centre hole.
- Drill into the chosen face for a screw chuck mounting, I used a large 3/8in,10mm screw.



Follow along in the photos opposite.

- The squared blank is mounted on a screwchuck to centre and starting to round off the blank.
- With winter cut wood, the bark can be left on and should stay firm, with spring cut logs, the bark will probably come off because sap flow tends to separate it from the wood.
- The fruits are shaped with a reasonable tooled finish and taken indoors for about two weeks to dry.
- Any splits are treated with super glue to stabilise them.
- Back to the lathe and use power sanding to finish the fruit, they are not re-tooled as any distortion adds to the “look”, sand and seal then spray with laquer.
- The stem and bottom pip are turned up and glued into the screwchuck and tail centre pilot holes to complete the fruit.

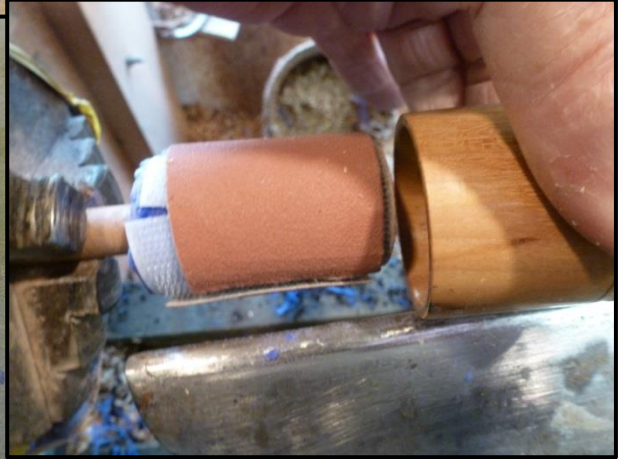
### **Bill Thorne**



# Apples and Pears



# Sanding Sticks



## Sanding Sticks

- Using an Addis floor mop head to provide a flexible drum for the sander.
- Cut off a piece about 1 1/2 x 2 inches and drill 1/2 inch diameter but not all the way through.
- Turn up a 1/2 inch dowel and use super glue to secure the dowel to the head.
- Chuck and turn the plastic head cylindrical, smaller is often better.
- Attach sticky-backed Velcro with no overlay at the join.
- Attach Velcro backed sand paper, again with no overlap.
- Use either with the stick rotating in the lathe or the work piece in the lathe and hold the stick.
- The softness of the plastic drum is important to provide a flexible sanding surface.
- Note the end face is also used as a sanding surface.

### Bill Thorne

## Producing an Article for Publication

As with many creations, writing a tip, an inspirational thought or a description of a project, using the maxim "start at the beginning, go on till you have finished, then stop" is a useful thought to bear in mind. If you are not sure, do not tell reader how to make some article, rather recount the way you made it. It is interesting to get a comparison of methods. A good turner will look at and remember anything that is new to him - it may help overcome a problem in the future. A beginner may copy, or learn from an article and apply it to his own design.

The planning of the article is relatively easy, it follows the sequence of the turning work. Write the steps down in order before you start, to act as a guide. Check, at least once, that the sequence is correct and that nothing has been left out.

Photographs with a commentary are sufficient to produce a worthwhile article. Extend the basic photograph captions by including how you did it and what tools were used.

Design and the sequence of work are the most important aspects. Quality of the work shown in the photographs is not so important, a clear picture is. Readers will produce quality to their own capability, you are guiding them through the stages.

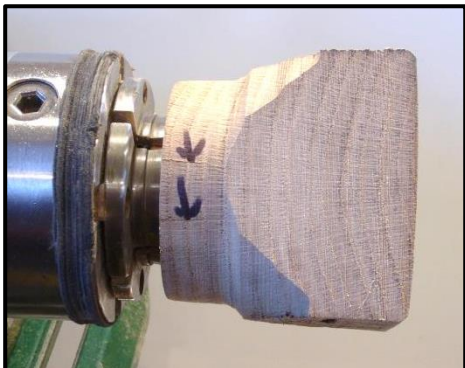


Get ready before you start. Have a clear picture in your mind of the project to be made and how you are going to make it. Prepare for the photographs. Make sure you have a reasonable background, plain if possible but certainly not cluttered up. The right colour background will help the clarity of the pictures. Check the lighting, it should be bright enough to take a good picture but not giving reflections off the article being taken or producing shadows on the backcloth. With digital cameras, it sometimes helps to take test photographs to check that the lighting is right and the other arrangements are satisfactory. Whilst photographing work on the lathe I have a white plastic sheet to stand behind as a background. I keep a clean black plastic bag to hang over the white sheet if the work does not show up clearly against it. If a digital camera is being used, take plenty of photographs. Take shots from different angles so you have a choice when writing the article. You do not have to use them all, just enough to tell the story.

If you are not sure about presentation, format, font sizes and other considerations, well, they are easily changed on a computer but why not speak with the Editor. You will find him ready to give suitable guide lines.

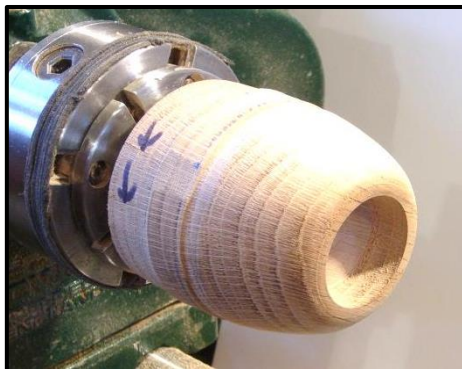
### **John Hilton**

#### **Tea Lights**

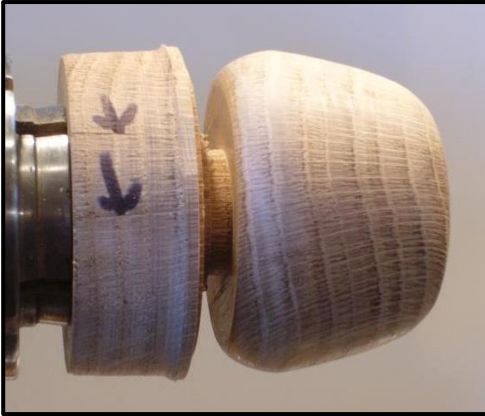


Hold the work and form a dovetail. This time I held it by friction hold, but there are various methods. The wood was an old oak fence post and has cracks where shown by the arrows. The cracked section I left on to form the jam chuck later on. (It could of course be made out of a separate piece of wood). The jaws of the chuck are holding the split wood, so the cracks should not present a problem. Just make sure they do not extend into the area of the finished article.

Next, turn the work to a cylinder and true up the end. Hollow out for the T light. Check the size of the light to be used as they do vary in height and diameter depending on the make. The hole may be drilled or, as in this case, taken out with a 3/8<sup>th</sup> spindle gouge and finalised with a square ended scraper. I find this quicker and it gives me a cleaner bottom to the hole.



If the right size drill is not available, a drilled hole has to be finished this, or a similar, way. With the recess finished, the top part of the outside can be formed, the shape decided by the turner to suit requirements.



Cut in 10 to 15mm with a parting tool just clear of the proposed underside of the holder and shape the lower section of the work. Much of the base may be finished when the work is on the jam chuck. Sand and finish where possible and as required. I generally use a spirit sealer and a paste wax coating. The top section of the work cannot be finished with the work on the jam chuck, but a lot of the outside can. I normally finish as much as I can from the top downwards before parting off,

sanding over some of the finished work and refinishing as I finalise the underside on the jam chuck. Now part off the work. Make a jam chuck and reverse the work on to it to finish the underside. Make up your own shapes and select wood of a suitable size. With care the same jam chuck may be used for all of the holders as it is made to fit the hole for the light. Before removing the jam chuck from the lathe, mark a point on a jaw of the chuck and a corresponding mark on the jam chuck.

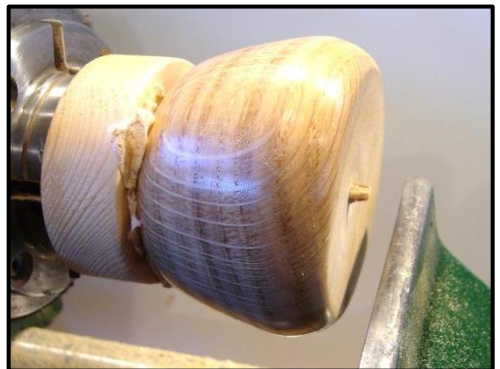


Replaced exactly as it was there is a good chance of it will run true.

When remounting the jam chuck it is possible to guide it into the exact position by sight and feel. The indents, made previously on the dovetail by the jaws, should line up again.

### **John Hilton**

**Turn to page 20 for a colour photograph of completed Tea Lights**



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## Competition Programmes 2013 / 2014

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Beginner</b>
January 2014	Spinning top      Drawing available
February	Sweet bowl largest diameter that you can turn comfortably on your lathe. (State on your entry, swing over your bed).
March	Showcase Vase      Drawing available
April	Lidded Box with a plain lid
May	One Apple and one Pear
June	Egg & egg cup
July	Sewing Needle Case (drawing to be supplied as a guide).
August	Cup and Ball Toy
September	Piece of turning to show off your abilities
<b>Novice</b>	
January 2014	Wooden Bowl from minimum 50mm stock
February	Sherry Schooner
March	Bell with a Striker      Drawing available
April	Finial lidded box
May	4 matching egg cups on a platter
June	Single tier Ear ring stand
July	Pot Pourri with a wooden vented lid
August	Hollow Vase minimum 100mm X 100mm X 150mm high
September	Piece of turning to show off your abilities
<b>Intermediate</b>	
January 2014	Wooden Bowl with foot. (Depth inside bowl 50mm)
February	Finial Box
March	Gavel and Block
April	Darning mushroom incorporating a sewing needle case in the handle
May	Candlestick      Drawing available
June	2 Tier ear ring stand
July	Hollow Vase 150mm X 150mm X 200mm high
August	Pestle and Mortar      Drawing available
September	Piece of turning to show off your abilities
<b>Advanced</b>	
January 2014	Secret Box
February	Scalloped Rimmed Bowl
March	A piece of turning to your own choice

April	Saturn (as the planet) bowl
May	Hollow Form
June	A piece of turning to your own choice
July	Composite Item
August	Pair of matching Urns
September	A piece of turning to your own choice

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## Preparing Your Own Timber

- Raise your log off the ground, cutting will be much more comfortable and controlled.
- Wedge or trim the bottom to be stable on the saw table.
- This log is 18 in. across, draw in the first two lines to box the centre, this piece will not be used.
- Draw lines to mark out the remainder of the log, these are approximately 4in thick.
- Remove the two side slabs.
- Cut through to about 2 in. from the bottom.
- Complete the cuts.
- Stack on two sticks to keep off the ground and provide air space, the bottoms are not painted or sealed to allow water to run out. The tops are painted with emulsion paint to seal them, use further sticking for another layer of stacking, cover with a sheet. The blanks will be ready to rough turn in about 4 months. They will then be part turned and left again to completely dry before finishing.

### Bill Thorne

During 2014 The Forest of Bere Woodturners Association  
will continue to support

**Macmillan Cancer Support**

**Rocky Appeal**

**GAFIRS**

**Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance.**

David Jenkins or Don Smith will be pleased to advise you on production issues.

**Any items that you would like to donate are acceptable.**

A big thank you to all those members who have given so generously and

**Please continue with your generous efforts.**

## Preparing Your Own Timber



In the next issue Bill Thorne will show us how he rough turns and completes the drying of these blanks.

### **WARNING**

**Chain saws are potentially one of the most dangerous tools that can be used in the garden. They can cause catastrophic injuries.**



**Left**

The Walter Howarth Trophy made by David Comley for the Four Marks Horticultural Society. Details on page 25

**Below**

A selection of Tea Lights by John Hilton.

Details on page 12



**Photos by Ray Matthews** from the Stuart King demonstration.

**Left** A useful looking drilling rig      **Right** A colourful and delicate group

## Festival of Bowls

It started in 2012 with the Kiss Display. The KISS principle, keep it simple, stupid, is normally associated with design and software engineering circles, as a reminder that most systems will be better if they are kept simple rather than made complex. It was re-assigned as the theme for a woodturning display at our then forthcoming Open Weekend. The display was indeed well supported and led to Kiss 2.0 in 2013, The Initials Open Day Challenge, in which members' initials were used as the starting point for a woodturning masterpiece.

The acronym series continues in 2014, based on the club initials "FOB"

with the **Festival of Bowls**

The letters F and O should be used to find words that allow you to come up with a turning solution. The letter B may be kept as bowl or bowls but an alternative word may be substituted as in the examples "From Oak Bog" bowl and "Favoured Old Blessings" bowl.

The use of a dictionary is recommended, and multiple entries are welcomed. Specialist techniques such as pyrography, piercing, texturing, colouring, spindle turning, routing and carving or others which may be part of your armoury can be used to enhance your bowl to spectacular effect.

Some example combinations might be :-

Folded over Bowl	Fluffy Outer Bowl
Falling over Bowl	Fissured/Fractured Oak Bowl/s
Four/Five Overlapping Bowls	Fenced Octagonal Bowl
Filigree Obelisk Bowl	Fettered Offertory Bowl
Frivolous Oscillating Bowl	Favoured Old Blessings Bowl
Flashy Opalescent Bowl	From Oak Bog Bowl

**All members are invited to participate and we hope to provide a substantial display.**

Once again, **Enjoy the torment and the satisfaction!**

Looking to provide interest, wonder and or amusement for the viewer and 'joy in the making' for the turner, there are no prizes, but if the response is as good as the previous challenges, everyone is a winner. The intention is to display the bowls at the May 2014 club night.

**Ken Briffett**

A recent article in a woodturning magazine suggested that there are a few laws in woodturning. Following on with my versions of some of these points of wisdom, may I suggest some common sense woodturning thoughts?

- 1 If you have any doubt that a tool is sharp, then there is NO doubt. Sharpen it!
- 2 It is more economical to practice on cheap timber.
- 3 The more adhesive you use in, on, or around your joints, the more you will need to sharpen your tools.
- 4 The bevel does not cut, but you cannot cut without the bevel kissing or making a light, supporting contact, however, you can scrape and probably tear the grain to the detriment of your hoped for finish
5. Too much bevel rub can lead to bruising of the timber leaving a mark you may find difficult to remove.
- 6 There is a time and a place for scraping, but choose your time, your place and your timber with care.
- 7 The inside shape of an object needs to be smaller than the outside, unless you are making a lampshade!

You may remember my comment that there are two ways of doing anything, my way or the wrong way. However this does not apply to tool sharpening. There are two ways of tool sharpening, but the choice depends on how the tool feels in your hand. Either use a jig to give you a predetermined set of angles and bevels, with only occasionally minor adjustment to the jig to reproduce a consistent repeated profile, or sharpen freehand. You may want a new angle or bevel to suit the immediate job in hand. Shape repetition requires a good measure skill, generally borne of much practice.

These two examples of tool sharpening and angles are exemplified by two experienced National Woodturners. One was adamant that the cutting angle of his tools had to be precise to half a degree, the other, a man after my own heart, said, "I don't know what the angle is but it looks OK to me for what I am intending to do." In both cases the bevels were clean, even if there were two of them, and of course they were SHARP.

**Eric Warnecke**



## A new trophy for the Four Marks Horticultural Society

Walter Howarth, a well-respected member of FMHS passed on to tend the great garden in the sky, and made a bequest to the Society, with which the committee decided to endow a project to encourage young gardeners, with the local school's help, and to provide an annual trophy for the bestest of them.

Guess who got to make the trophy!



Using the Horticultural Society logo for inspiration, I decided to make a round 'shield', based on the flower design, having six 'petals' round the corolla. I chose the Best of British oak for the project, and had to limit the overall size to 17 inches diameter because of the swing on my lathe - the off centre turnings use the full 29½ inches!



I visited John Bradford in Devon and bought two pieces of oak - there's confidence for you. Here, one is on the lathe, and the other is posing for the camera!

Thankfully it came out right with the first piece, so the other one will get a life of its own in due course.



Here's how it's held - all the holding was done either with a 4 inch faceplate or on the 4 inch chuck jaws.

Here it's mounted on the centre of the rear on the faceplate, ready for the front to be shaped.



This is the front of the piece after shaping. There's a chucking spigot in the centre, a raised area which defines the corolla, and a pencil line 14½ inches from the opposite side to mark the centres for the petals. A strange way to measure it, you may say, but it ensures that the disc will not foul the lathe parts and fit the 29½ inch swing of the outrigger. The proportions look good and right, so carry on.



The piece is now mounted with that front spigot in the big chuck jaws. The back has been dished slightly, the 14½ inch line repeated on the back, six equally spaced radial lines marked (using the lathe's indexer) and another chucking spigot developed in the centre.



The 4 inch faceplate is then screwed round the six petal locations. I sighted the 14½ inch ring through two of the holes, the radial line through two others, and screwed it through the other four. Confession time. Notice that there is a small wedge to the left side of the faceplate in this picture - after all was said and done, I dished the piece too much and it fouled the lathe, so the wedge straightened it out for me. It's a learning curve!



Here's the first of the petals being turned. Notice that the centre of the disc is way over from the centre of the petal, and with the centre of gravity so far over, I was not able to turn faster than 160rpm, I would have preferred 1,600rpm for such small features! Faster than 160rpm and the vibration is too much. I'm very grateful for the variable speed as the right speed is found by trial and error.



That's just about it for the turning. Here I've completed the six petals, sanded the piece and sprayed it with a coat of acrylic sanding sealer.

It's going to be coloured with spirit dye, and the sanding sealer will help prevent the colour leeching along the wood grain.



Here's just about the final. The colour has been added. The lovely Marion has added the face and picked out the rings round the petals. Hanging rings and a cord have been fitted to the back. The trophy has been handed over to the Horticultural Society, who will add silver tablets to the back to name it the Walter Howarth Trophy, and year by year tablets will be added to the front to celebrate each year's bestest young gardener.

David Comley

Turn to page 20 to see this photograph in colour

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## The Forest of Bere Woodturners Association

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<b><u>Helpers</u></b>
-----------------------

Chief Judge	John Wyatt helped by Eric Warnecke
Library and Badges	Jim Casemore
Club Night Teas	Volunteers on the night
Raffle	Arthur Pike

<b><u>Meetings</u></b>
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The club meets on the Third Wednesday of the Month at The St. John Ambulance Hall, Fraser Road, Bedhampton, Havant, Hants. PO9 3EJ (Opposite the Rugby Club) 1915 till 22.00hrs.

<b><u>Disclaimer</u></b>
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