

# Crow Valley

WOODTURNERS

## Newsletter

Spring '26

“By the Members, for the Members”

It's a whole new season at Crow Valley Woodturners' club. Welcome to your Spring Newsletter. This month we welcome David James to the Club committee following the AGM and right away he has got to work and written the story of his turning journey so far. Our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is a theme throughout as we gear up for our celebratory event, which appropriately is on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June! If any members haven't yet received their club badge or travel mug, then please speak with a committee member. Also start thinking about a piece for the competition with Avon and Bristol which is in August. The starting point is a 4"x4"x4" cube of wood.



### *In this issue...*

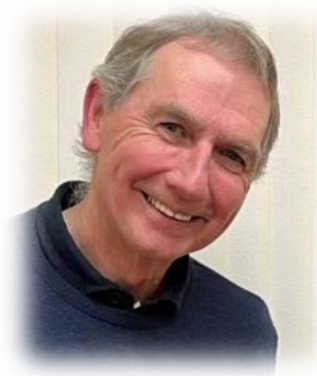
- Introduction from the Chair
- Peter Bradwick looks back on our first 20 years
- David James shares his woodturning journey to date
- Kevin James takes us to the Malvern show
- David Alexander's workshop Wurlitzer
- Yandles Masters of the Lathe III
- Wordsearch

### *Putting the "20" in 2026*

As we move through our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, celebratory club badges and travel coffee mugs have been distributed to members. If you don't have yours yet then please let a committee member know.

Next up is our celebration on June 20<sup>th</sup> where we'll showcase members work, have some live turning demonstrations and a chance to try some pyrography. Refreshments will also be provided. Join us between 12 noon and 3pm at 'the centre' (or should that be 'live centre') on June 20<sup>th</sup>.





## Thoughts from the Chair

Here we are in the spring of our 20<sup>th</sup> year, Easter has come and gone, with the club having hosted the Youth Training Day during the school break attended by six enthusiastic young turners, five of which are Grandchildren of club members and one junior member from the Avon and Bristol Woodturning Club. Full report to follow in the summer newsletter.



This spring newsletter is full of interesting articles including David James giving a light-hearted account of his personal turning journey, David Alexander with his 'Workshop Wurlitzer' telling of fun music for the workshop, and Kevin James taking us the Three Counties Showground in Malvern.

Looking back at the history of the club, please see my article about the early years of the Crow Valley Woodturning Club, of how the journey started, how the workshop evolved and how the club developed and thrived.

Personally, it has been a privilege and honour to be both part of and to lead the journey, having a very emotional attachment to the club and seeing the journey from the very start. Getting over barriers and working around bumps in the road along the way, to seeing the fruits of our labour with a well-established, vibrant turning club that with have today.

The journey continues for the next 20 years and beyond!

Cheers,

*Peter*



Stand at Usk Show

# The History

By Peter Bradwick

## Crow Valley WOODTURNERS

'Good leadership... doing what is right, when no one is watching.'

### The Early Years

The club's journey started back in 2005 when I approached the Centre to look at the possibility of setting up woodturning classes. I was welcomed with great enthusiasm and support from the centre manager at the time to find a way of making it happen. Room 10 (the current workshop) was chosen; however, it was being used for wrought iron work with steel benches and racks on the wall to store lengths of metal sections. There was also a forge, you can still see the extractor hood in the far corner. First impression, the room did not look anything like a turning workshop with not a lathe in sight!



#### The First Turning Class!

John Rich, Peter Bradwick, Veronica Sargent,  
Alan Morton, Gordon Rich, David Ball and  
Tony Jenson

Not to be daunted, there was a glimmer of light when a silver Myford ML8 lathe was found to be in the Social Services Workshop at the end of the corridor. The Myford lathe was installed in room 10, closely followed by a Union Graduate lathe that was found at another centre. These were the only lathes available when the classes initially commenced in the September making the first session very interesting with up ten students sharing two lathes!

Another Myford ML8 lathe was found at Ashley House Pontnewydd that belonged to the Carvers Club. After some persuasion and long negotiation, the carvers eventually agreed to relocate to the centre and share the workshop. The Myford lathe was installed in the workshop along with a small bandsaw that also belonged to the carvers.

Jim Hitch, Steve Howells and I with a few others used to get together on Wednesday evenings at Hamilton Edge Saw Blades to have a go on some lathes and use a large bandsaw to cut up our woodturning blanks. At this time Stuart Hamilton needed extra space to install some new machinery and turning sessions ceased. A long bed Union Graduate was acquired from



Hamilton's by the centre... so now there were a total four lathes installed in the workshop.

I became a member of the AWGB and was looking at joining a club, but the nearest club was across the Bristol Channel at Avon and Bristol Woodturners that met at a pub in Bristol. So, I thought let's look at the possibility of forming a club here in

Cwmbran at the centre. We had a nucleus of turners with the students attending the classes and those of us that attended the turning sessions at Hamilton's. Also, I asked the AWGB for a list of members with a Newport and Cardiff post codes.

All the above were invited to a meeting at the centre and in March 2006 Crow Valley Woodturners was officially formed. We had a good number of members to start with, a fantastic venue to meet, but no money in the bank and at that time no bank account! Jim Hitch volunteered as Treasurer and soon got the club up and running by collecting subs and opening a bank account. With limited financial resources, it was crucial that the club affiliated to the AWGB where we instantly had public liability insurance, a demonstrator grant and able to apply for a start-up loan of £250.

With help with the AWGB start-up loan the club purchased its first lathe, an Apollo Woodpecker from Reg Sherwin. At the time, Reg was a regular contributor to the 'Woodturning' magazine using the Apollo Woodpecker lathe in his articles over many years, so the club was buying a bit of turning history from a well-respected professional turner. Reg had his workshop at 'Avoncroft Museum of Buildings' near Birmingham. I remember going up to collect the lathe and asking Reg if he could help with a little reduction on the price; Reg had none of it, instead he offered to come to Cwmbran to deliver a demonstration on the lathe free of charge!

As the club members and class numbers developed and skills improved; demands for equipment was clear. One source of funding was via the CEC committee meeting that Jim Hitch attended each term to apply for funding to purchase equipment. Jim was always on the lookout to apply for grants elsewhere, one of which, an annual grant from Croesyceiliog and Llanyravon Council

that we still receive today. Jim also put together an application for the 'Wales Awards for All' Lottery Fund for £3,200. This took a huge amount of time and effort from Jim, but it was well worth it as the club was successful with the application and received the full amount of £3,200. With this money the club purchased the Vicmarc VL175 Lathe and Bandsaw.

It is worth mentioning here that Jim Hitch made an enormous contribution with his time and devotion setting the foundations for financial stability and sense of community within the club with his constant communication to the members. I have said on many occasions that Jim was the very heartbeat of the club, and I will be forever grateful for his support and loyalty over many years.



The late, and sadly missed Nick Agar demonstrating

In the early years, to promote woodturning and attract new members, the club attended the annual Usk Show, supporting show events with Isca Hardwoods at Tredegar House and from time to time having a presence in the Cwmbran town centre. I asked a favour of my son to design the club logo, as he is a partner in a graphic design business. A VL100 Vicmarc lathe was purchased for the purpose of demonstrating at external events.

By 2009 the club had grown to over 60 members and the classes continued to expand with two morning and two evening courses being delivered. The workload on the poor old Myford lathes were taking their toll; after several requests the centre finally agreed that the club could sell the two Myford lathes and replace them. This was the start of the slow process of updating the lathes to have a standard tooling with M33 thread drives. The workshop slowly evolved with the enormous contribution of Gordon Rich, Nigel Miles with me going around the country collecting lathes and installing them in the workshop.

As the reputation of the club raised, members were coming from as far afield as Gloucester, Bridgend, Cardiff and Abergavenny. Top professional turners of the day such as... Tobias Kaye, Stuart Mortimer, Ray Key, Nick Agar to mention just a few were invited to demonstrate; the club soon had a reputation held by professionals as a top venue to demonstrate. No wonder as part of my work with the AWGB I have visited many clubs up and down the country and found that we have a unique venue having one of the best if not the best facilities that stands out from other clubs... no bias of course!



Eddie Flemming, Master Peter Gibson and Julian Cleak

Crow Valley Woodturners was one of the first clubs to host the AWGB/Worshipful Company of Turners 'Youth Training Days', with junior club members Macaulay Watkins and Leon Hayward going on to win top prizes in the junior competitions at Wizardry in Wood. In 2013, club members Eddie Flemming and Julian Cleak were the first two recipients of the 'Certificate in Woodturning' awarded by the WCT. The Certificate has gone on to be rolled out and delivered across the country.

Some newer members ask 'why is our annual competition called the 'OZ Award'? ..... well, here is the answer... Tony Jenson was at the inaugural meeting and volunteered as Chairman. Originally from Australia Tony had the nickname 'OZ'; he was a student on the first woodturning class at the centre and went on to be the winner of the very first club competition. With his 'Tulip Wood' platter, using the contrast of heart and sap as a horizon with pyro-graphed birds in flight. It was the wish of OZ that his lathe and equipment was to be donated to the club, to be loaned out to club members. The annual competition was named the 'OZ Award' in his memory.

The OZ Award has gone on from strength to strength showcasing the skills and talents of club members over the years. Normally the winners are voted by members; however, on two occasions the well-respected RPT Ray Key judged the competition. On one occasion, whilst Ray delivered a demonstration at the club; Glyn Morris took the honours. The other occasion was on the presentation night of the Certificate in Woodturning when Ray again judged the competition where Terry Everson took the honours.



Tony 'Oz' Jenson at Usk Show



Terry Everson & Ray Key



Glyn Morris & Ray Key

At that inaugural meeting back in 2006, little did we know how things would 'turn' out; however, with the enthusiasm and willingness to give their time, the committee with the support of the members and the cooperation and special relationship between the club and the centre, we now have a workshop to be proud of allowing both classes and club to thrive.

May the journey long continue for the next 20 years!

Peter



## My Journey as a Turner

by David James

You would be forgiven for thinking it all began on a Friday, 4 years ago in the Upper Cock Pub with 4 couples having food and drinks on the run up to Christmas. Graham Middle sidled over and asked as conspiratorially as a barber suggesting "something for the weekend sir", "fancy buying a lathe that's for sale?". "How much?" I replied thinking maybe £500 or so, not really interested but "£30 donation to the Club" was the reply. So, the following morning, slightly hung over, we turned up at Rob's to see a pile of rusty, dusty and torn lumps of metal and cardboard which I transported home to my workshop in the back of my van. The workshop contained a planner/thicknesser, table saw, router table, extractor and work bench it was 'chocka'.



But no, that's not where it all started! Born in 1962 and leaving school in '78, the woodwork teacher, a tyrant by the name of Mr Fisher had removed any love of woodworking from my body, having had to dodge board rubbers, chisels and any weighty object he could bring to hand. Not so Metalwork though, I loved it and I found a position as an apprentice Fitter/Turner, here my long turning journey began, but at first

predominantly in metal. It gave me the opportunity to learn machinist and engineering skills with the ability to transfer them to other spheres. An interest in DIY and car mechanics followed as I drove a mini 850 that always required attention. It was an old & battered car but at 19 years old, it didn't matter as I was mobile and had a back seat if you could ever find someone to share it!

It's 1984. No job, no hope and a miner's strike. Out of the (Airforce) blue a minion of Auntie Betty called me up and said, "young man there's no need to feel down, I said young man, pick yourself up off the ground" (thanks YMCA☺) and so I joined the elite of the armed services, the Royal Air Force, as an aircraft electrician. Married to my wife in '87 (39 years this year, double murder and I'd still be out), we bought our first place; an old terrace house with loads to do. With a tool kit that consisted of a hammer, jack saw, electric drill cheap chisels and some screw drivers and discovered I loved wood working. Three houses later and living in the 'First & Last' house in Croesyceiliog (the arguments are that it's Llanyravon), I started a business as an Electrician; domestic, commercial and industrial. That after 22 years for her majesty travelling to the Middle East, Cyprus numerous times, America, Canada and the Falklands. That was easily the worst four-month trip anyone has never enjoyed, including "Flxmas", 25 June 1998, no gifts, no fun, no turkey!

As an electrician I expanded into fitting kitchens, bathrooms, all kinds of wood working jobs. I built a client's extension and two loft conversions. Best of all was the opportunity to make bespoke doors and built in furniture. It also enabled me to buy every conceivable tool known to man whilst writing it off against tax, brilliant!

Graham and I assembled the Record Coronet and bolted it to the work bench (the only usable space left in a 1960's garage too small to fit in a mini and open both doors). Lots of cleaning, oiling and replacing rubber band in the chuck (yes rubber bands), sharpened the few tools that came with it and I was ready for some tutorials in the basics with Graham.



'The Bug' bit and I replaced the elastic-band-chuck, tightened with C spanners nightmare, with a more modern Axminster model, second hand from Walter. Then followed a spindle gouge and bowl gouge. Next question, "Graham how do you sharpen these on this Sorby thing" (bought for sharpening chisels that my stupid apprentice kept dropping point- down notching them, then hiding them back in the chisel case so he wouldn't get a row!), the answer came "buy some

more jigs". Great! more hundreds of pounds to spend, not to mention sanding sealer, buffing wheels and more tools!

The lathe is great except it shakes like a constipated dog even if the work is relatively balanced and changing speed with a belt and pulleys for is a complete pain. You can't get the belt tight enough at low speed and then it slips when taking any size of cut. I still feel my work is improving and I'm very much enjoying the turning. The real problem is that it dominates the work bench which means I can only turn, and not make furniture. Great news! in 2023 I retire and have permission off the boss to extend the workshop (she hates it, but fair play you wouldn't know and never mentions in more than once a week, ....honest☺). I build a bench for the lathe put 6 bags of sand in the base; it still shakes but is more like a Chihuahua now, rather than a Great Dane (and the mess is smaller). I decide early on, that practising coves and beads is a little bit boring, but turning a chess set is a test and I get a finished product. Nigel warned me it might be a bit frustrating but also waded in with great book on the different skills and turning techniques to use. It probably took six months if not more, and then I made a table to suit, this was well received at the 'Oz' awards.



My biggest purchase to date was a replacement of the old lathe with a second-hand jet lathe its big and beautiful and came with a posh new chuck and loads of accessories all courtesy of Walter. I can now turn larger and more out of balance items without the need to put a lead on the dog.

Thousands of pounds later I've got a good setup, more tools to buy (you can never have enough) and am able to really enjoy turning. The company of like-minded people at the club is great and only better at the pub after club nights.

So now for the 'Thank you's'. To Walter for his forbearance' when buying his gear. Nigel for trying to turn me into a right-handed turner and never mentioning he's never bought a tool, personally I'm like 'the Scarlets', left is best!

All the Club members (Hefin I may yet turn another Barley Twist..maybe), particularly those who think up the turner's tasks. They often put you out of your comfort zone, it's a great opportunity to try something new, and I always try to bring completed item on the 'show and tell' night. Finally, my old Mate Graham who enticed me into what can be a frustrating, financially ruinous and fascinating hobby that fixates me.

David

## Richard Ross



Our friend and fellow member Richard Ross sadly passed away at the end of February. Richard was a regular attendee at club nights and will be sorely missed.

His wife Susan said that he loved spending time with us as like-minded woodturners and always spoke highly of both the club and its members. Several members were able to attend his funeral to pay our respects.

Rest in peace Richard.

## Congratulations Sean!



Congratulations to 2025 Oz Award winner Sean Tedstone who finally received his 'to keep' trophy whilst giving and excellent demonstration of finishing techniques at our club night on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Nice one Sean!!



# The Workshop

## Wurlitzer

By David Alexander



..... “No woman no cry, no, no woman, no cry.....”, the dulcet tones of Bob Marley blasted through the little smart speaker in the corner of the workshop as I stood tackling my recently trimmed large birch bowl blank.

It was Bob Marley who famously quoted “The good thing about music is, when it hits, it doesn’t hurt”, there is me thinking, if this bloody blank flies off the faceplate at 700 rpm, I bet this will blinking hurt.....!

Not that I’m comparing my wood turned fumbings to some of the masterpieces penned by probably one of the most recognisable pioneers of the Reggae genre, but it got me thinking about the type of music/background hum we each adopt in the workshop. Often seen as a place of solitude and reflection, our own personal space to create and produce, naturally gives rise to the environment in which we work can have a significant impact on the success (or failings) of the piece.

Personally, I’m typically a Radio 2 man, and enjoy the eclectic mix of tunes, witty banter and regular news updates. Speaking with a few of the guys in the typing pool, there is clearly a wider cross section to be enjoyed than Dermot and Romesh on a Saturday morning. Even within the small group I was chatting to, the tastes ranged between belting tunes from the 80’s electronic and new romantic movement to rocking out to AC/DC with volume turned up to eleven!!!!

If we were to canvass the whole group, I’m sure the cross section of tastes would be wide and varied. Stephen Norman pointed out how he likes his workshop to be quiet whilst he is turning to allow him to listen to the subtle sound of the wood whilst it turns against the chisel. David James on the other hand likes to have the music pumping which gets his creational juices flowing. I’m sure most of us grab for the volume dial when the dust extractor is turned on and maybe even “change our tune” if we are roughing out a large bowl when compared to a finishing cut on a thin-walled natural edge.

There are times when anyone listening outside my garage, they would swear I was playing a Spanish flamenco cante with a dancer clacking her castanets in full flow with all the catches I get!!!

The fact is we are all individuals. Like our music, our wood turning tastes will all be different. Of course, there are bound to be similarities, “3 chords and the truth” may well prove to be our spindle gouge and 120 grit! Whether you like listen to Beethoven’s 5<sup>th</sup>, turn large hollow-forms, mellow out to some Hawkwind or match a lid to a precision fitted box, there is enjoyment to be had.

I tried to have a bit of fun with a few “woody” titles and artists with the help of Paul (his are the really clever ones), I’m sure you can think of loads more and please do let us know 😊

She Drives me Crazy

The wonder of Yew

Son of a preacher man

Agadoo

Purple heart, purple heart

Ring of fire

I saw her sanding there

Another brick in the Walnut

Surfing USA

He ain’t heavy, he’s my brother

Cherry wine

Popular

Glory days

Ticket to ride (the bevel)

Turning Japanese

And my absolute favorite.....

Duelling Banjos!!! 😊

‘Pine’ Young Cannibals

Elvis Presley

‘Dusty’ Springfield

Black Lace(wood)

Prince

Johnny ‘Ash

The Beatles

Pink Floyd

The ‘Beech’ boys

The ‘Hollys’

Hozier

Arianna Grande

‘Spruce’ Springsteen

The Beatles

The Vapours



Please have a bit of fun with this, send a few into the newsletter team

([paul.thomas74@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.thomas74@btinternet.com)) and we’ll decide on our favourite! **There’s a bowl blank in it**

**for the winner** 😊

David



# The Three Counties Show - Malvern

By Kevin James

Earlier this year I was asked by Rob Williams if I would like to demonstrate and have my stall at the Three Counties Show in Malvern. Despite some initial apprehension, I decided that this would be a great opportunity to showcase my items that I had made and also to gain valuable experience demonstrating.

This article will outline my journey from preparation through to return home after the event. I hope that you will find something of interest in this article and also may even inspire some of you to take up demonstrating even if only in the club.

## **Pre planning**

I have been attending numerous craft fairs over the last couple of years so setting up a stall was of no concern however, the demonstrating element of this event meant that I would need to put some serious preparation and planning in place.

My first task was to complete a list of items I would be demonstrating so that I could prepare appropriate timber, tools and finishes. Additionally, I would of course need a lathe along with some form of sharpening facility.

In light that I would be demonstrating for a big part of each day I also had to consider what help I would need in order to support serving customers alongside the demonstration. I was very fortunate that from a very early stage our fellow member Stuart Thomas very kindly volunteered to come along and support and help me.

Other considerations were that the event is approximately a 90-minute drive away from home, as such, returning home each day was impractical. There was a facility to camp on site however, I am long past camping and prefer my creature comforts. I therefore had to plan ahead and book some form of accommodation. This accommodation needed to provide the basics while at the same time being cost effective to make the event worthwhile. In order to achieve this, I had to look a little distance away from the actual event which as it happens was in Cinderford a 40-minute drive from the event. The journey to Cinderford was via very narrow B roads not what I needed early in the morning and after a long day demonstrating. Needless to say, I will not be booking this venue again. ☹

## **Preparation**

I was fortunate that I had already booked two weeks annual leave and this event fell on the middle weekend which gave me plenty of time to plan and prepare immediately prior to the event.

I decided that I would demonstrate the smaller items such as fruits, wands, mice, and a few small snack bowls. Additional to the timber, I of course needed the sundry items to complete the items made. It is surprising how much we take for granted the equipment we have readily to hand in our own workshops. It only becomes apparent when one needs to demonstrate away from that environment. Dust extraction vac, chucks, keys, drills, tools all needed careful consideration. I had to think of all the equipment and items I use to complete each given project, for example, to turn a piece of fruit one needs the screw chuck, wood for the stalks, cloves for the base, colours if planning to make coloured fruits and any finishes.

Additional to the timber, I had a number of items part completed that I wanted to finish so that they could be included on the stall. It very quickly became apparent that there would be at least two car loads of equipment and stock to get to the event and again to return home.

I was very grateful to the club for allowing me borrow one of our lathes and ProEdge sharpening system. This had to be dismantled and transported along with all the other equipment and re-assembled at the show.

In view that I had not attended this event before and therefore had no prior knowledge of the setup or layout it was very difficult to decide how my stall and demonstrating area would be laid out.

This had to be completed on arrival, I decided the best way forward would be to set up the night before the event started which was the Thursday. Again, thanks to Stuart this was a very seamless and relatively painless process.



## **Thursday - Day Before**

I had already collected all the equipment and stock ready to be loaded at home, gone through my checklist to make sure nothing had been forgotten. Stuart and I loaded the cars and arrived at the site approximately 3:30 PM. On arrival we found we only had a frontage of two 6 foot tables for the stall and demonstration area. This poses a significant problem considering my stall normally takes up 3 x 6 foot tables formed in a U shape and approximately 3 metres wide. We decided to you two place 3 tables back-to-back. This clearly is not an optimal setup as customers can only

reach items on the front table, however, this was our only option. The setup process took some considerable time due too the layout being significantly different to my normal stall. I am sure Stuart became somewhat frustrated by me constantly changing the items around. We finally got all set up and ready by approximately 8:00 PM.

### Day one

Day one started with a very early start having to drive from home to the show and arriving at the show around about 6:30 AM first task of the day was to allocate price cards to items on show and prepare for the first demonstration which was to be a simple piece of fruit. The general public started to filter in at around 9:00 AM at which time I started demonstrating. We were in a marquee with multiple other crafters as such people were gathering around elements of interest. It was very clear both myself and my neighbour woodcarver were quite popular. The clientele of this day one seemed to be parties of schoolchildren, scouts and other organisations along with numerous older generation that were part of larger coach parties.



### Day Two

Day 2 started on a very similar vein to day 1, with the exception that the journey to the show was only from Cinderford there for only 40 minutes. Having parked the car there was then a very substantial stroll

through the whole site to the marquee. Clientele on day 2 were far more affluent and official looking members of the show browsing events on offer. Day 2 was by far the most successful from items sold perspective but also from the demonstrating where a number of people observing the demonstration asked to buy items being made. I found this day extremely tiring because I was essentially demonstrating from 8:30 AM through to 6:00 PM. I did however have additional help on this day from a friend who also supports me on a number of craft fayres.



### **Day three**

Day three started similarly to the previous two days however was a slightly slower start being a Sunday morning and also the clientele arriving on this day seem to be a broader selection of Society with more people just browsing rather than buying. The volume of people visiting our marquee was considerably less than the previous two days, this allowed a little less intensity in the demonstration. By around 4:00 PM the general public seemed to be leaving so crafters started the onerous task of packing away all be it very slowly.

### **Packing up and getting home.**

We were not permitted to bring vehicles onto the site until after 6:00 PM due too safety of visitors walking on site as such it was a gentle slow pack up. The pack up process was made slightly more difficult in that I had no assistance or help. I took the opportunity to ensure I compacted everything into as little a space as possible with the aim of taking as much as possible in one journey. I did however have to return on the Monday morning to collect some stock as it was too much for one vehicle.

### **Lessons Learned and conclusions.**

This event was by far the largest event I have taken part / demonstrated in and with everything in life one learns lessons from experience.

**Lesson 1** was not to take quite so much for the event less is definitely more. I will focus on a couple of key items for the demonstration such that I would not need to take so much ancillary equipment.

**Lesson 2** do not plan to use any form of colouring or texturing in the demonstration as this only adds to the volume of items needed

**Lesson 3** consider alternative accommodation closer to the event or possibly camp at the event to avoid additional travel and therefore cost.

**Lesson 4** plan ahead to have adequate help for the whole weekend so that multiple journeys aren't required at the end of the show.

**Lesson 5** arrange with the organiser to have a wider area for the stall and demonstration this will make set up quicker and easier and customer interaction more efficient.

**In conclusion**, this was a very enjoyable event one I will definitely be repeating with the above lessons learned. I think setting up on the Thursday prior to the event start was very worthwhile and is the way forward. My only regret for this show was not taking time to actually take a look around the actual events happening. This I would hope can address for the next one.

*Kevin*

# Yandles Masters of the Lathe III 2026

*The day Sally Burnett met the Crow Valley boys*



On a beautiful April day (the 18<sup>th</sup> in fact) some of your club mates took the trip down to Somerset for Yandles Masters of the Lathe 2026. One car got 'lost' and went miraculously to Axminster where much coin was parted with in the 'oopsy room' at Axminster tools. Back on track and fuelled with a Costa coffee we made our way to the City of Martock and eventually parked up in a field close to Yandles. The event was packed out with enthusiastic turners and a number of well known professionals. Demonstrations from Martin Saban-Smith, Stuart Furini and a number of others were held outside the shop area and a couple of other demonstrators were positioned indoors. One of those was Sally Burnett, who quite apart from being a great artist and turner

was an absolute delight to both spend some time with and to learn from.

Sally was generous with her time we came away inspired to have a go at some pyrography and design concepts. A great day was had by all! (especially the guys at the Yandles tills who had a VERY good day☺)

*Paul*

# Woodturning

## Wordsearch



Spindle

Lathe

Chisel

Gouge

Maple

Walnut

Ash

Blank

Grain

Cut

Tool

Craft

Watch out for new prize competitions coming soon!

# Dates for your Diary

Don't forget *Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2026* is our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Date 2026	Meeting Topic
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Show and Tell Finished Bowl
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Open Workshop
14 <sup>th</sup> May	Demo/Talk Competition Ideas
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Open Workshop
28 <sup>th</sup> May	<i>Half Term No club</i>
4 <sup>th</sup> June	Open Workshop Extended
11 <sup>th</sup> June	Show and Tell Competition Development
18 <sup>th</sup> June	Open Workshop
25 <sup>th</sup> June	Demo/Talk Natural Edge
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Open Workshop
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Open Workshop
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Show and Tell Natural Edge
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	<i>Emma Cook Demonstration</i>

Also, it's time to get thinking and working on your competition piece for the competition versus

Avon & Bristol on *August 20<sup>th</sup> 2026* (there's that 20<sup>th</sup> again! ☺)

*Stay safe and Happy Turning!*