

Coombe Abbey Woodturners NEWSLETTER

October



2025

This Month's Sponsor



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HEALTH & SAFETY NOTICE

Woodturning can be dangerous! Always follow the manufacturers' instructions and safety advice when operating power tools. Never try the techniques shown at our demonstrations or in our Newsletter if you are unsure or the procedure does not feel safe. Always use the guarding and other safety equipment.

The Club takes reasonable care to operate and instruct in a safe manner and strongly recommends all members to follow the Club's Health and Safety rules and the guidance notes that the AWGB issue in their Revolutions magazine from time to time.

Committee Members and Contacts

Chairman, Treasurer & Membership Secretary	Lee Cartwright
Vice Chairman	Giles Headley
Secretary & Library Custodian	Peter Orange
Events Secretary	Patrick Byrne
Newsletter & Web Site Editor	Rob Sheehan
	Graham Ball
	Graham Cashmore
	Rod Young
	Phil Steele
	Graham Hudspith
Training Coordinator	Michael Archer

Website: <https://www.coombeabbeywoodturners.org>

**Copy Deadline for the November 2025 issue of the Newsletter is:-
Friday 24th October 2025**

**Please forward your News, Stories and Photographs to:-
Robert Sheehan- Newsletter Editor -
M: 07905 185122. E-mail: robsheehan@virginmedia.com**

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In This Issue

Chairman's Jottings	4
One Line Philosopher	5
This month's Sponsor	6
Gianni Deidda	8
Members' Work	34
Items For Sale	35
Teaching at Coombe	38
Notices	40
Christmas Competitions	40
Activities of Other Clubs	41
Coombe branded items	42
Workshop Charge Notice	43
Calendar of Events	44

Advertisers

TMS Volvo	7
Turners Retreat	9
Charnwood	11
Crown Hand Tools	13
Henry Taylor	15
Chestnut Products	17
Hamlet	19
Yandles	21
CSM Abrasives Plus	23
Record Power	25
Proops Brothers	27

From the Editor



Inside you can find my report on the scroll saw demo by Gianni Deidda. He made lots of projects as well as telling us tips and tricks.

The members' work on display at the demo can be found on page 34.

Items for sale start at page 35.

Workshop teaching is on page 39.

The Christmas Competitions are listed on page 40.

Events at other clubs can be found on page 41.

Coombe branded items for sale can be found on page 42.

Finally, the calendar of events can be found on the back page 44. Paddy Byrne has started booking demos for 2026. More dates will be added soon.

Please book your place for my Hands-On Pen Turning session at Coombe on Saturday 17th January. I will provide a basic 7mm twist pen kit and pen blank. Places are limited to 4 per morning/afternoon session but you can just come to look if space permits.

Regards

Rob

Editors's Jottings

Lee is busy with work and family again this month, so you've got me again.



On page 40, you will find the list of Christmas competitions. I would encourage more people to have a go. If you can't make it to the Christmas buffet, give your entry to Giles, who will enter it on your behalf. If you are afraid of going against some of the great turners in the club, then enter a piece for the Rhodes Trophy. You can enter any turned piece and nobody who has won any of the competitions before can enter this competition. You can of course enter more than one competition or all of them if you have turned lots of pieces during the year.

Speaking of the Christmas buffet meal. The price will be £10 per person. Please let Lee know if you want to attend so we can order the correct amount of food. Also mention any special dietary requirements so we can cater appropriately. Again, I encourage more people to attend. Please support the club, enter the competitions and maybe win a raffle prize. It's all good fun and there is even a quiz to keep people entertained while the competitions are judged. The Christmas Party is on Saturday 12th December at Walsgrave Baptist Church.

Many thanks to Gianni Deidda for his scroll saw demonstration. I enjoyed it and, if you couldn't make it, you can find my report later in the newsletter. I'm going to have a go at some of the projects and I would encourage you to dust off your scroll saw and have a go too.

Paddy Byrne has been busy booking events for the rest of this year and into next year. Our next demonstrator is Andy James who turns in miniature. I've see small items at shows but I look forward to see what tools are used and how it's done. The club's camera system (operated by Graham) is good enough to zoom in and show off Andy's work to all. Please attend and support your club.

The AGM is coming up in January. Not only does that mean that subs will be due again (boo), but it is your chance to steer the direction of the club. Please write or speak to a member of the committee if you want to make a suggestion, give praise for something you liked or even make a complaint. It's your club, so tell us which demonstrators you want to see and what tools and techniques and pieces you want demonstrated.

Speaking of comments, a member recently asked if we can have the critique table again at demonstrations, and have the demonstrator talk about the pieces displayed. Your committee thought this was a good idea and we will have a critique table at Andy James' demo. It does however, require you to submit pieces for comment.

Regards

Ref

One Line Philosopher:

"I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free."

Michelangelo 1495

This Month's Newsletter Sponsor

TMS Motor Group

I am very pleased to welcome TMS Motor Group once again as a sponsor of this monthly Newsletter magazine. TMS are a great place to start when looking for quality new and used cars. They also stock a large range of spares and accessories.

Editor

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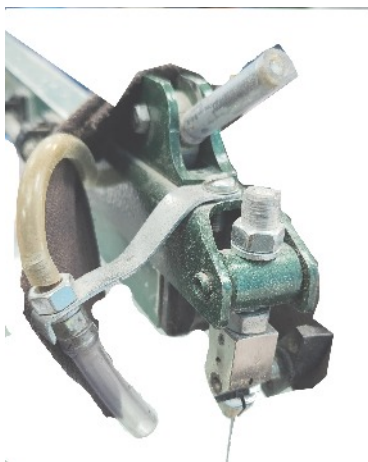
Gianni Deidda 7/9/25

By Rob Sheehan

Scroll saw master Gianni came up with some new projects for his third visit to the club. Using his heavily modified Diamond scroll saw, he cut both wood and metal projects during the day. He kindly donated the finished pieces to the club.



Gianni's scroll saw. Table replaced with Perspex - warmer than metal and see-through so the lower blade clamp is visible for easier blade changes. The blade clamps have been modified (see below) and a fish tank air pump provides a much better blower to keep the cutting line free of dust.



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Gianni Deidda - continued

Gianni's first project was a three drawer jewellery box. He used a coping saw blade to cut this as it is longer and so cuts deeper than scroll saw blades. His scroll saw can take both coping and scroll saw blades. The box is made up of three layers - the front, the body and the back. The front was glued to the body. The back was left off at this stage and not cut. After sticking the pattern on the wood, Gianni cut out the three drawers.



The pattern has two coloured lines. Black lines (outside of box and drawers) indicate the cut should be outside of the line.

Red lines (drawer interior) indicate the cut should be on the line.

One of the three drawers.
The bowl-shaped red line is where the body of the drawer is cut out.
The comet shape indicates the position of the handle.
All three drawers were cut out at this stage.



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- 12mm (1/2") Bowl Gouge
- 4mm (3/16") Diamond Parting Tool
- 19mm (3/4") Round Nose Scraper

Gianni Deidda - continued

All three drawers have been cut out and removed. Gianni spread fast-setting pva glue on the back and glued on the back of the box. This was clamped and allowed to dry.



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Gianni Deidda - continued

The front and the back of the drawer are sliced off. Gianni does this by eye.



With the front and back removed, the centre of the drawer body is hollowed out to hold the drawer contents.

Once hollowing is complete, Gianni glued the front and back slices back onto the hollowed out body. Small clamps held them in place until the glue had dried.

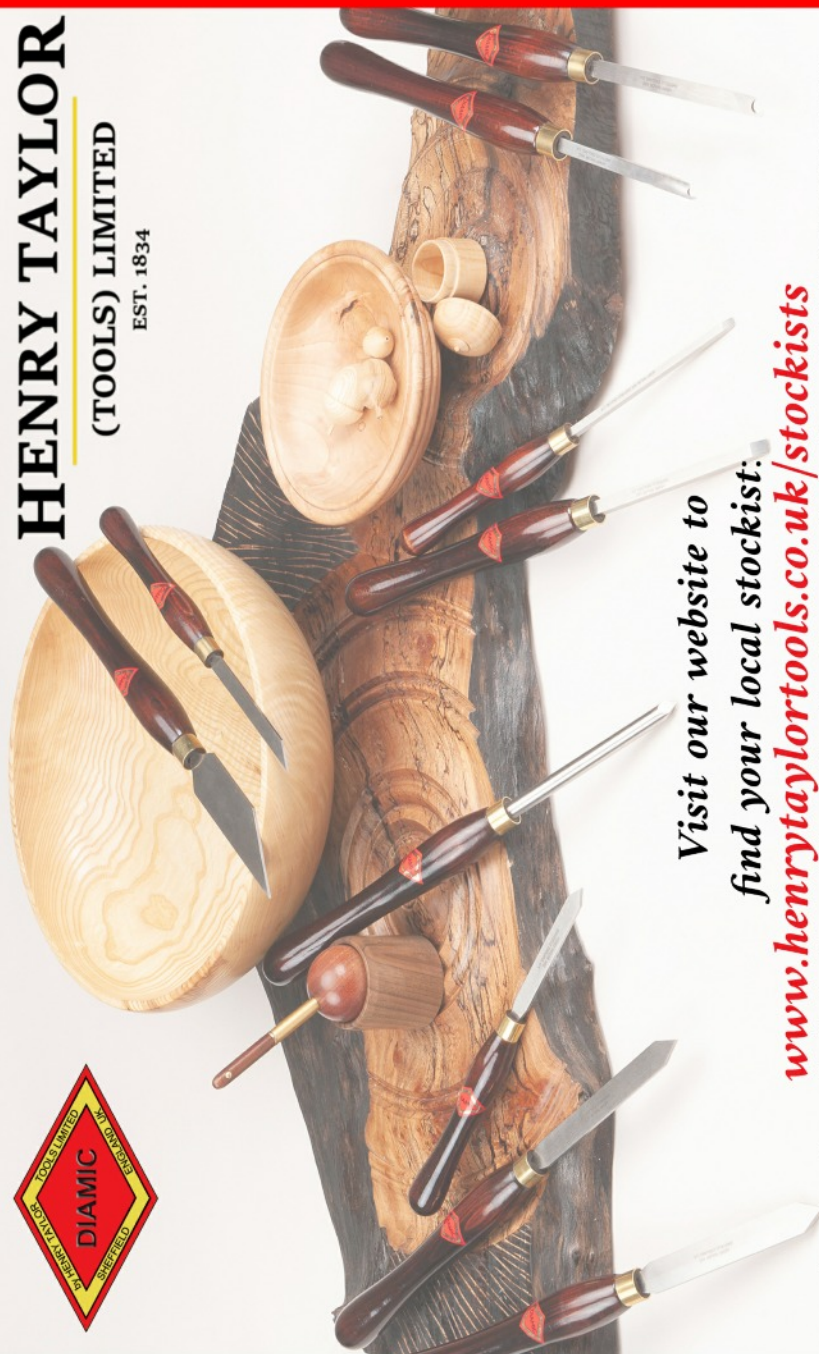




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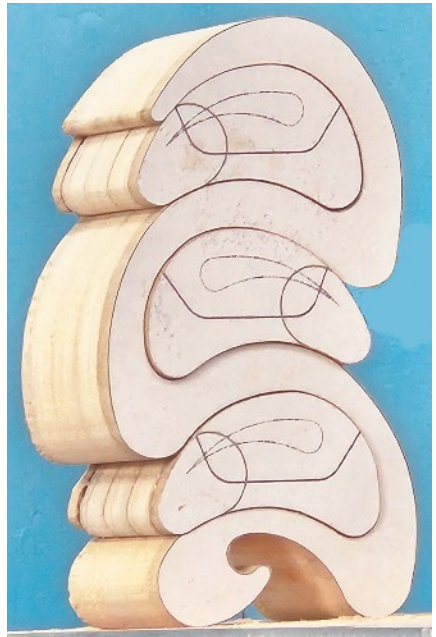
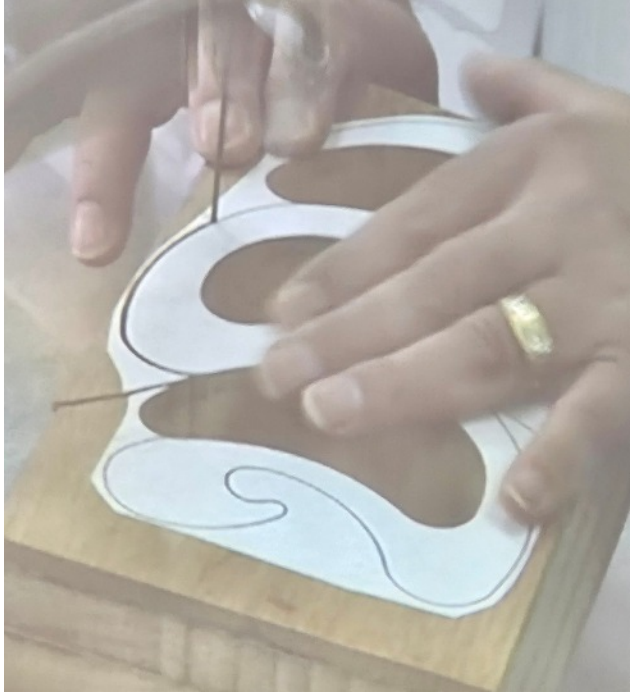
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Gianni Deidda - continued

With the back attached and the glue dried, Gianni cut around the perimeter of the box. The back panel around the drawer recess was shaped into a nice curve.

Below:
Box without drawers.

Below Right:
Box with drawers.



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Gianni Deidda - continued

Gianni then cut out the drawer handles.



Above:
A finished handle.

Right:
The jewellery box with drawers and handles. The paper template has been removed. It still requires sanding and finishing.





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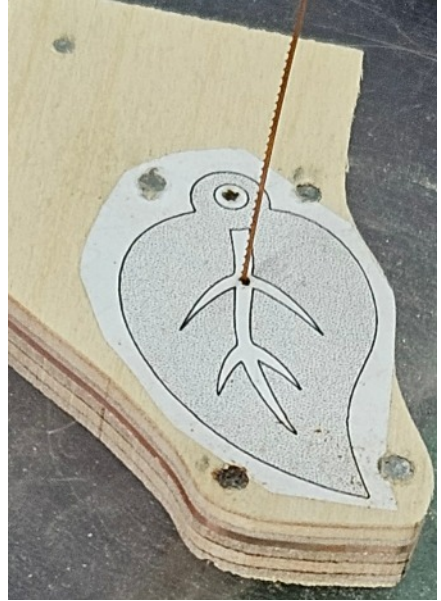
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Gianni Deidda - continued



Leaf Earring in Copper

The copper sheet is sandwiched between two layers of plywood to provide support as it is cut. Brad nails hold the layers together.



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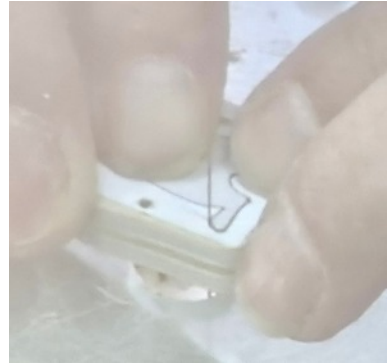


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Gianni Deidda - continued



Rabbit Earrings in Brass

The brass sheet is sandwiched between two layers of plywood for support. Brad nails hold the layers together.

An Eclipse #3 metal blade was again used. An oil/water mix can be used to lubricate the blade if necessary.



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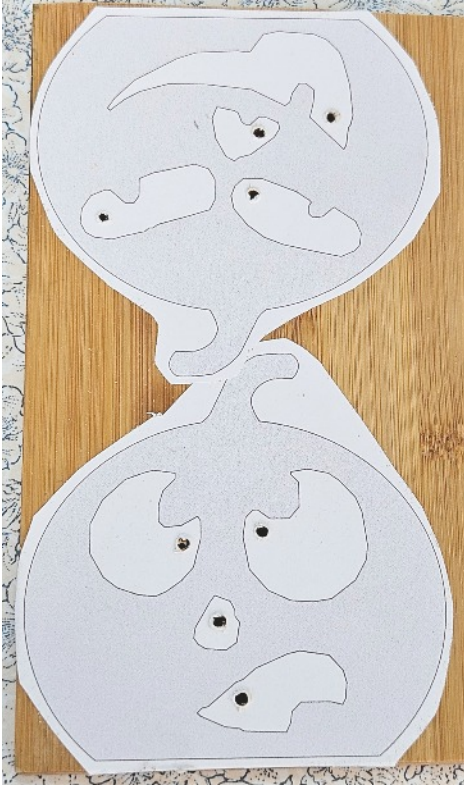
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Gianni Deidda - continued



Halloween Tea Light Holder

Various pumpkin shapes can be used. The base is a simple D-shape with a hole drilled part way through to hold the LED tea light. This project is not suitable for tea lights with flames.



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Gianni Deidda - continued



Horse & Jockey Sign for Stables

Gianni has been commissioned to create a horse & jockey sign for some stables.

At nearly 4' long, this is too big to cut in the usual way on any saw. So Gianni has to use a #3 spiral blade. This will cut in any direction (forward, backward and side to side), so the sign can stay in the same orientation while all cuts are made. The problem with spiral blades is they have a wide kerf and need a lot of sanding.



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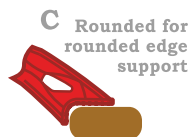
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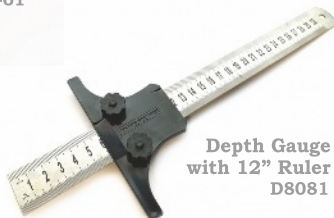
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Gianni Deidda - continued

Jewellery Tree

Designed to hold ear studs in the holes in the branches and rings or bracelets on the base dowels.

Gianni bought a wardrobe at an auction and is using the wood for his projects. People don't want the old wooden furniture, so it is sold cheaply, but provides a lot of wood.



Above:

Instead of following the base template, Gianni cut a wavy shape for the base.

Right:

Cutting out the tree in one pass.



Gianni Deidda - continued

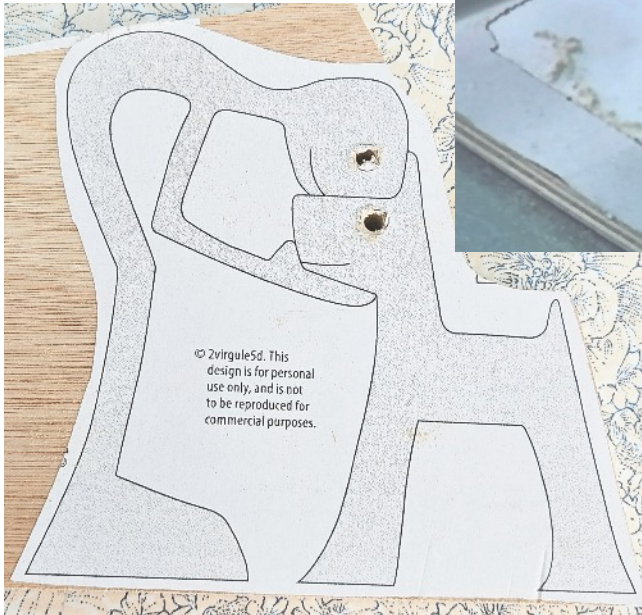


Above:
Tidying up a branch.

Right:
The finished tree



Gianni Deidda - continued



Man and his Dog

Cut out of plywood thick enough to be free standing.

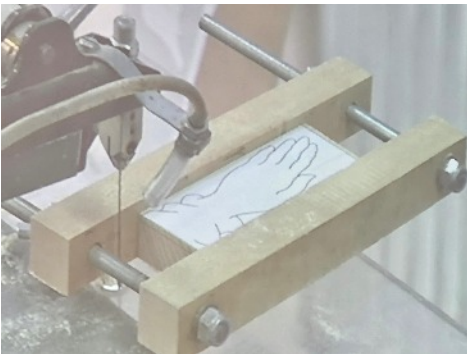
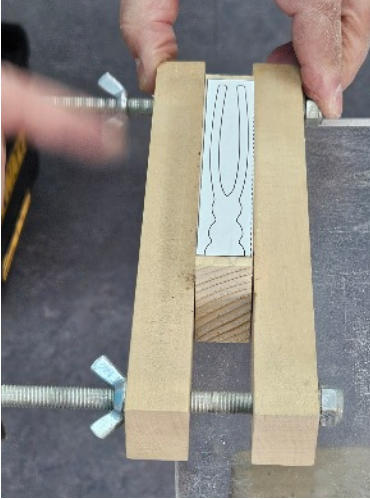
Note the copyright notice on the pattern. Many patterns are free to use for personal use, but the pattern cannot be sold.



Gianni Deidda - continued

3D Praying Hands

The template covers two sides of the wooden block. A clamp holds the cut pieces together when cutting the second side. It also helps with holding the project and keeps fingers away from the blade.



Gianni Deidda - continued



Racing Car

Popular with kids.

Pre drill the axle holes.

Cut the windows first, then cut the outside.

Dowels for the axles and the wheels are bought.



Gianni Deidda - continued



Specialist Crafts Ltd
Hamilton House, Mountain Road, Leicester LE4 9HQ
Tel: +44 (0)116 269 7711 Web: www.specialistcrafts.com

Gianni's Tips

He prefers Olsen or Flying Dutchman scroll saw blades.

He prefers Saint Christopher coping saw blades.

He used Re-Tak repositionable adhesive from Specialist Crafts Ltd, Leicester.

Candlewax on blade makes it cut easier.

File back edges of blade to make it easier to go round tight corners.

Reverse teeth blades are more difficult to use by beginners.

Steve Good's website has lots of free plans (for personal use only).

Slow down when cutting round corners.

Change blades frequently. Don't keep trying to use a blunt blade.

Cutting along the grain is more difficult than cutting across the grain.

Sand & seal the face before gluing on the template.

Sand wood to 400 grit. Sand metal jewellery to 1000 grit.

On a complicated piece, cut the inside first. More to hold and if a mess is made, throw away and haven't wasted time cutting the outside.

Members' Work



Items For Sale

Disclaimer

The club is not responsible for any item appearing on these pages. The buyer and seller must make their own arrangements as to the condition, suitability, delivery, payment and price etc.

Diamond Scroll Saw for sale

Former Chairman of Hinckley Woodturning Club, Brian Hartwell, has a Diamond Scroll Saw for sale. Price £65.



Items For Sale - continued

For Sale: Long version of the **Vicmarc VL 200** with 50cm extension and outboard turning attachment. Offers around £4,000.

The sale of the lathe & rest of his tools will be at:

26 Cavendish Avenue, Churchdown, Gloucester, GL3 2HW

It will be at 10.00am on 13th September

Contact Paul Arthurs pdamusic@gmail.com



Items For Sale - continued

For Sale: Arundel M230M Wood Lathe. I'm asking £250.

The two bed bars, which are 7/8 inch square, were originally longer. However, I cut them down because of space limitation and the fact that I was doing much shorter work.

Contact John Reid johnreid@btinternet.com



Items For Sale - continued

Lathe for Sale

I am selling my Nova 'Comet' lathe

Comes with a larger diameter gap bed extension, stand, various face plates, cole jaws, chuck etc as shown in the photographs

40 inches between centres

Will disassemble for transport



Asking £180 ono

Telephone John on 07860654322

Lathe located in Lutterworth

Workshop Teaching

Glen turned a tool handle on his 4th lesson with tutor Lee.
Karolina turned a bud vase on her first lesson with tutor Rob



Notices

Christmas Party Saturday 12th December

This will be a buffet meal. Cost £10 per person.

Please let Lee know asap if you want to attend.

Please bring in raffle prizes.

Booking Training Sessions

Michael Archer is now handling all training session bookings.

Please phone him on 02476 448311.

Do not book a session without Michael's prior agreement.

Christmas Competitions

Rhodes' Trophy

Any turned item. Open to anyone who hasn't won a competition before.

Austin's Trophy

An item with a Natural Edge. Open to anyone.

John Bradbury Trophy

A hollow form. Open to anyone.

Jim Elliott Trophy

A (turned) Lidded Box. Open to anyone.

Roger Warren-Finding Shield (Woodturner of the Year)

Any turned item. Open to anyone.

Roy Nichols Trophy

Awarded to the person who comes second in the Roger Warren-Finding Shield

All pieces should be mainly turned and have been turned within a year of the competition date.

Activities of other clubs in the Midlands area

As a matter of courtesy and to ensure that there is space available to accommodate members wishing to visit other clubs demo's, please use the contact telephone number where shown.

North Warwickshire & Hinckley Woodturners

Tuesday October 7 Demo - Turning Resin Chris Grimshaw
Tuesday October 21 AGM

Contact Rob Sheehan 07905185122

Tudor Rose Woodturners

Thursday 9 October Stan Bird
Thursday 23 October Bill Bennett Demonstration

Contact Colin Smith 07939-004375 communications@tudor-rose-turners.co.uk

West Midlands Woodturners

Sunday 19th October Demonstration – Nathanael Griffiths

Contact Chris Jones 07580 195561 crjones5691@gmail.com

West Northants Woodturners

Wednesday 1st October Andy James

Contact Tom Donnely 01327 349093

Trent Valley Woodturners

Wednesday TBD

Contact Ian Ethell <https://www.trentvalleywoodturners.co.uk/contact/>

Heart of England Woodturners

Friday October 10th Paul Hannaby Demo

Contact Giles Dugmore (Chair) 0779 2424775

Coombe Woodturners Branded Items for Sale



COOMBE WOODTURNERS CLUB LOGO WEAR

Polo Shirt £16.50

Hoodies

Overhead £26.50

Zipper £28.50

Sweatshirts Crewneck £22.50

Fleece Jacket £24.50

Soft Shell Jacket £31.50

Soft Shell Bodywarmer £27.50

New Style Jacket £28.50

Please order and pay through Lee or Martin

Items take around 2-3 weeks lead time if not in stock

Thank you for supporting your Club

Workshop Notice

Coombe Abbey woodturners

As agreed at the AGM on the 4th January 2025

From 1st February 2025 we will be introducing a £1 entry fee into the workshop for all members.

This will include the use of the workshop & equipment Also to include tea & coffee you will also get entry into the 50/50 raffle each day you come into the workshop.

Clarification to the above notice:

The charge does NOT apply to tutors who are teaching a student, nor to committee members when attending a committee meeting.

This will not cover all costs but will go a some way to helping the club to run the workshop through the year and give members a chance of winning a little more money each month.

Thank you for your support

The Committee

Calendar of Events 2025

Oct	17	Fri	S	Andy James
Nov	15	Sat	W	TBD
Dec	13	Sat	W	Christmas Party

Calendar of Events 2026

Jan	10	Sat	W	AGM
Jan	17	Sat	C	Hands-On Pen Turning
Mar	14	Sat	W	Chris Parker
May	1/2	Fri/Sat		Woodworks at Daventry
Sept	5	Sat	W	TBD
Nov	14	Sat	W	Robert Till
Dec	12	Sat	W	Christmas Party

Meeting Locations:

(W) Walsgrave Baptist Church, 10am - 4pm
Hinckley Road, Coventry, CV2 2EX.

(S) Shilton Village Hall, 6:30pm - 9pm
Wood Lane, Shilton, CV7 9JZ

(C) Coombe Abbey Workshop 10am - 12 noon, 1pm - 3pm
Brinklow Rd, Coventry CV3 2AB

Next Meeting

Demonstration by Andy James
Friday October 17th. 6:30pm - 9 pm Shilton Village Hall

Coming up

TBD Saturday 15th November, Walsgrave Baptist Church