

Coombe Abbey Woodturners NEWSLETTER

September



2025

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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.

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

**Copy Deadline for the Octoberber 2025 issue of the Newsletter is:-
Tuesday 23rd September 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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From the Editor



No demos this month, so you can see some of my pictures from the Chestnut Woodturning Weekender. It was well attended with four demonstrations, local woodturning clubs and lots for sale. The next event has already been booked for Doncaster next year. See page 19 for details. See you there!

Don't forget the Henry Taylor open day this Sunday 31st August. I'm going. See page 17 for details.

Our next demo is Gianni Deidda, scroll saw master, on Saturday 6th September.

Paddy has added another demo to our calendar. Andy James (miniature turner) on 17th October. See page 44 for all events.

We had the gazebo out over the bank holiday weekend, with the pole lathe & a powered lathe. The last raffle tickets for Air Ambulance were sold and the draw made. Winners are listed on page 40. Thanks to all who helped out selling raffle tickets, turning or just making items to be sold.

Regards

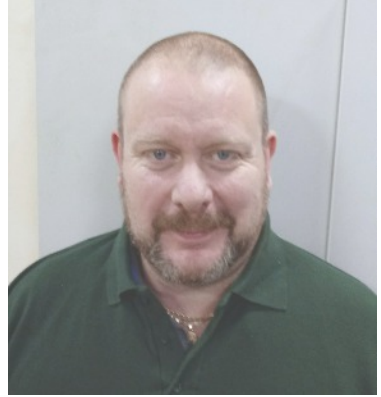
Rob

Chairman's Jottings

Hi everyone,

I hope you are all well and have been busy turning.

We are looking for further donations of work for charity sales, so if you have anything you would like to donate, please leave items at the workshop or hand them over to a committee member. Thank you.



We had the Gazebos up at Coombe over the bank holiday weekend and raised further money for the Air Ambulance. Thank you again to all those members that supported this event. It was a reasonable success with great weather, but it would be great to see a few more of the members within the club helping and supporting the club events.

The annual raffle has now been drawn and there is a list of winners in the workshop Jill will be contacting all winners over the next week or so.

The next club Demo is at Walsgrave on Saturday 6th September and the demonstrator will be scroll saw master, Gianni Deidda. Expect a good demonstration in scroll saw work and techniques. Again, it would be good to see as many members as possible turning out for these events to support the club.

Please keep your eye on newsletters and any club emails for upcoming events. There will be details in Octobers newsletter about Christmas competitions and the Christmas party.

I look forward to seeing you over the next couple of weeks at club demos and, over the next few months, at the workshop.

That's all from me for now. I hope to see you all soon.

Stay safe, keep turning

Remember **YOUR** Club needs you and your support.

Regards

Lee

One Line Philosopher:

“Books are the perfect entertainment: no batteries, hours of enjoymentt for each dollar spent.”

Stephen King2007

This Month's Newsletter Sponsor

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I am very pleased to welcome Proops Brothers once again as a sponsor of this monthly Newsletter magazine. As suppliers and stockists of high quality turning equipment, tools and accessories, it is a great place to start for all your woodturning needs.

Editor

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Proops Brothers Ltd is a family run business based in rural Leicestershire, supplying a vast range of tools for craft & hobby, DIY, model making, jewellery, metal & wood working. Our sister company, Linic Plastics Ltd, is based on the same site and manufactures many of the tools that we sell.

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In the late 1980's Proops Brothers was bought by the current owner Isobel's late father, Nic Burdett who has built in into a thriving company of 'everything useful' for hobbyists, jewellers, craft makers and modelling enthusiasts. Isobel worked alongside Nic for years, and took over the day to day running of the business in the last few years. To date, Proops Brothers buys and manufactures quality tooling. We endeavour to offer outstanding value for money and great service to our community.

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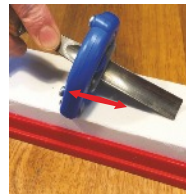
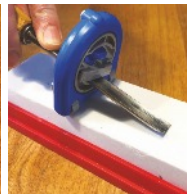
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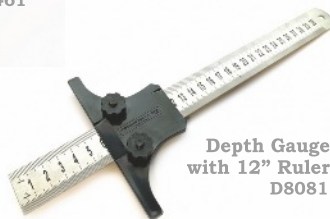
Inside Outside with
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W3461



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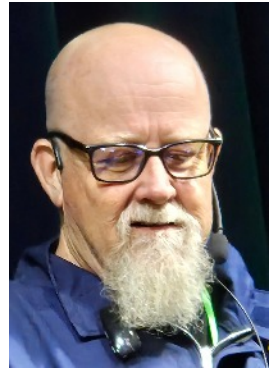
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Chestnut Woodturning Weekender

Andy Fortune

Andy was the first demonstrator of the weekend. He started by giving a very interesting presentation on the structure, history and types of tree/timber. He also showed us some items made from the timber removed from St. Paul's cathedral when their bells were renovated.



Using a faceplate and 1" screws, Andy trued up the edge and shaped the outside. His preferred method of holding a bowl to be hollowed is a recess, as it requires no further finishing. After sanding 80g - 180g, Andy applied a coat of Tung oil. This was cut back with wire wool and a second coat applied. Usually, he would leave 24 hours between coats of oil.



Andy hollowed out the bowl, leaving a 10mm thick wall. A french curve scraper refined the inside. He then sanded forward 80g - 180g and reverse 120g - 180g before oiling as before.



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Andy Fortune - continued



The finished bowl



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Andy Fortune - continued

Andy's second project was a platter. He said the size of foot depended on the expected use of the bowl/platter. A display/serving dish can have a narrow foot but a dish for eating requires a wider foot.



As an extra feature, Andy slightly dished the rim. He used the shape of a round nose scraper to do this. He also put a little bevel on the edge.



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Andy Fortune- continued

Andy's third project was a vase in London Plane. He started by shaping the outside and creating a chucking spigot. Holding it on the spigot, Andy drilled the centre. To do this, he used a Forstner bit welded onto a long handle.



The long-handled drill in use. It looked scary but it's quicker than using a drill bit in the tail stock.



Andy coloured the outside with Purple & Yellow Chestnut spirit stains to give a gold effect. The finish is Chestnut acrylic gloss lacquer.



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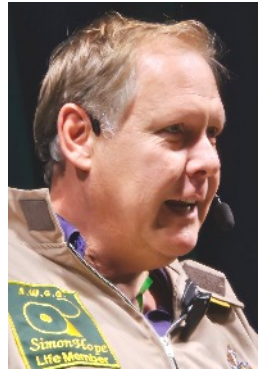


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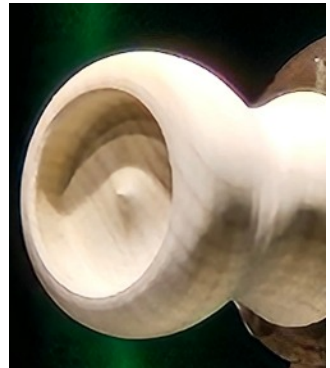
Chestnut Woodturning Weekender Simon Hope

Simon's first project was a Sea Shell Salt Shaker. There is no picture of the final piece as, after he had finished, he handed it to the audience and it never reappeared.



Simon turned the spindle blank to round and marked it out. A spigot on each end and the rest split $\frac{1}{3}$ & $\frac{2}{3}$.

The top $\frac{1}{3}$ was mounted in the chuck. Simon turned a cove in the middle.



The outside was shaped like a cone and drilled right through, ready for hollowing.



The centre was hollowed, leaving a thin wall.



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Simon Hope- continued

The top was then cut at a 45° angle.

The body is shown below. Unfortunately, he didn't stop to show the final piece, so make of it what you can. There is a small 2mm hole between the top and base of the shell box. The box lid is held in place with waxed thread held in a groove in the box base spigot.





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Simon Hope- continued

Simon's second project was a platter with a resin insert in the rim. After turning the bottom, Simon flattened the face and cut a 10mm wide recess approximately 6mm deep.



Simon used Halfords' Isopon FastGlas resin. This has an orange colour so it is better used when adding coloured pigments. Simon used a mix of blue and white pigments. Taking the chuck off the lathe & standing it on a flat surface, Simon added the hardener to the coloured resin and poured it into the groove. Time ran out before the resin had set for the platter to be finished.



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Simon Hope- continued

Simon's next project was an off-centre candlestick taken from a project by Jean-François Escoulen. He mounted the square block, corner to corner, between steb centres. The candle recess had already been drilled at one end. As it is mounted corner to corner, it is very well balanced, so it can be turned at a high speed.



Simon turned a ball in the centre using a skew chisel and spindle gouge.



He then shaped the two outside blocks, curving down to the centre ball.



Back between centres, Simon turned a small egg-cup at the top and a larger egg-cup for the base of the candlestick. Again, it was passed to the audience before I could get a picture of the finished piece.



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Chestnut Woodturning Weekender

Katie Armstrong

Katie first started woodturning as part of her Duke of Edinburgh challenge and she became the youngest member of the RPT. Her first project was called “Bowl and Arrow” taken from one of David Springett’s Woodturning Wizardry book.



Katie flattened the face of the blank and turned the edge to round. She then marked a chucking spigot and turned the curved profile. The rim was left proud. The base was also left quite thick as this was going to be a “wobble” bowl, so the spigot was going to be removed completely, leaving a rounded bottom.



Katie turned a cove at the rim of the bowl. The diameter had to be carefully measured to fit a “Blue Peter” arrow that had been prepared earlier.



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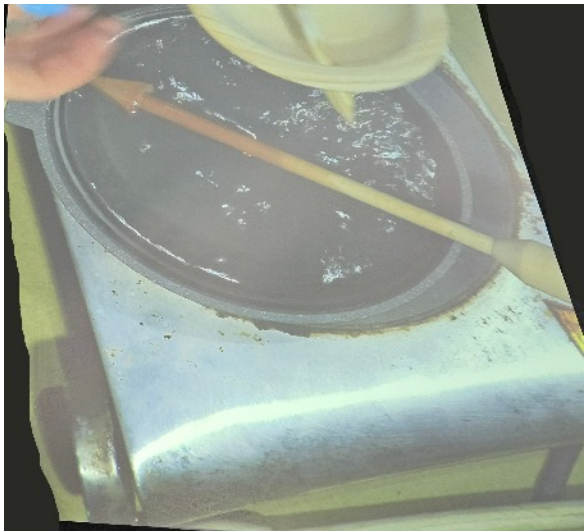
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Katie Armstrong- continued

Before hollowing the inside, Katie drilled holes into the coved rim of the bowl. These must be big enough to take the shaft of the arrow, but smaller than the arrow head. The holes should be drilled into the side grain, not the end grain. She then hollowed the bowl, sanded and finished it with Lemon oil. Katie is not a fan of high gloss finishes.



Katie turned the arrow between centres. Lime or Ash is good. The shaft must be a clearance fit through the holes with the head and flights larger. The 3 flights and head will be carved later. Once carved, the arrow head is boiled in water for about 20 minutes.



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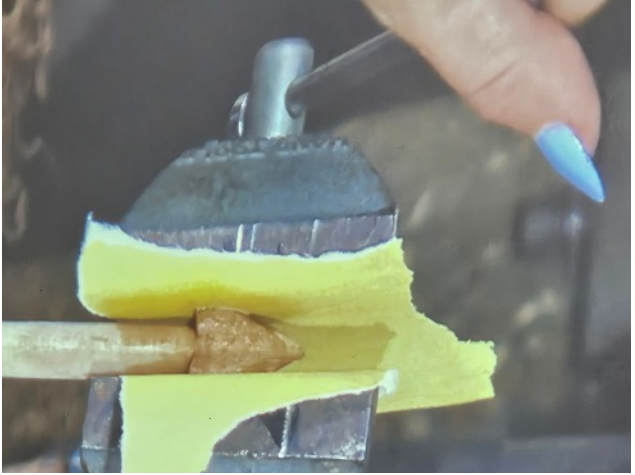
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Katie Armstrong- continued

The head of the arrow is then squeezed in a vice, to the same diameter as the shaft. It must be left to cool and dry completely in the vice for 24 hours. Sand paper stops it slipping in the vice jaws.



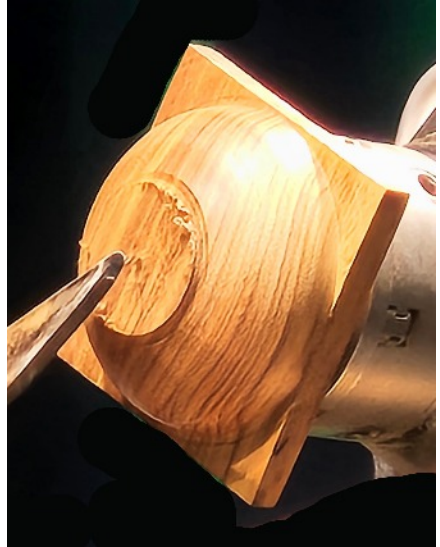
The compressed arrow head is then pushed through the holes in the bowl. The head is then soaked in hot water again to expand back to its original shape.



The completed puzzle Bowl and Arrow. This arrow is shown with 4 flights (easier to carve). A proper arrow only has 3.



Katie Armstrong- continued



Katie's final project was a square edged bowl. Accurate cutting and marking is essential. Katie cut up $\frac{2}{3}$ the height of the blank using a high speed (1600 rpm). The curve of the bowl leaves a small flat area all around the bottom of the rim.

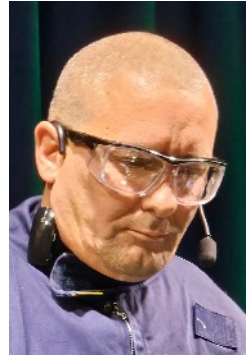
The finished bowl with protruding rim. The wings were sanded by hand with the lathe stopped.



Chestnut Woodturning Weekender

Andy Matthews

Andy turned a beaded hollow form with a very narrow neck. This makes it look very difficult to hollow. The secret is to turn it in two halves and then to hide the join.



The Walnut blank, 210mm x 100mm x 100mm.

Andy turned it to round and added a chucking spigot at both ends. He then parted down the middle with a narrow parting tool.



The ends were curved down, leaving a pine cone or pineapple shape. The centre was then drilled with a Forstner bit.



On this half, Andy cut a recess to join the two halves.



Andy Matthews- continued

Half of the hollow form has been hollowed out. The other half was turned similarly but Andy turned a spigot to fit the recess.



The glued-up hollow form. PVA glue left for 24 hours to dry. Andy then drilled the small entrance hole in the end.

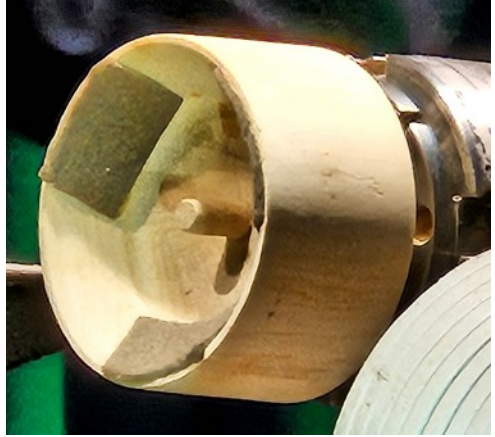


Adding the beads with a beading tool. Andy started the beads from the centre outwards. One leg of the beading tool started on the join.



Andy Matthews- continued

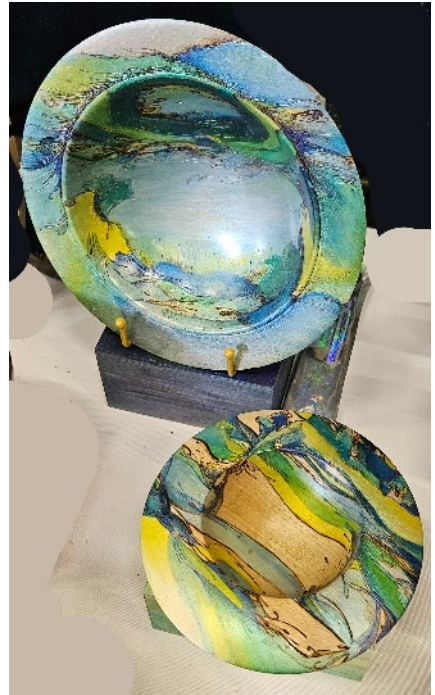
A home-made spigot/jam chuck to hold the piece while the bottom is finished. The protruding spigot fits into the hole in the neck and the cup supports the piece. Fine Webrax inside the cup grips the piece and also stops it being marked when driven.



The beaded hollow form with an oil finish.



Weekender Interesting Items



Weekender Interesting Items- continued



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

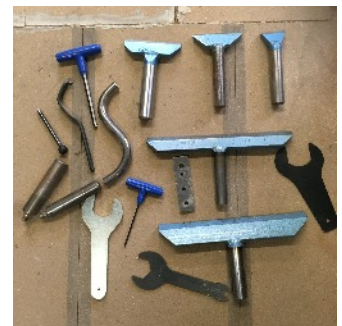
For Sale: Long version of the **Vicmarc VL 200** with 50cm extension and outboard turning attachment. Offers around £4,000.

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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



Mike Smith's Work



I was asked to make a gonk by a pétanque club member friend of mine. She is a school teacher and wanted a prize for her school raffle in September when the schools go back after the summer holidays. It took about 2-3 weeks on and off to make.

Parts list:- base, trouser legs, body, nose, jack and boules (I cheated with those as I bought some 10mm wooden balls for the jack and some 15mm balls for the boules), hands, shoes, club hat, boules wiper (sticking out of left pocket).

Gonk club uniform :- Black trousers, forest green sweater and cap with club badges "Three Spires". Coventry Pétanque " underneath.



Workshop Teaching



Notices

New (Trainee) Members of the Club

Each new trainee will be offered the chance to attend two demonstrations Free-Of-Charge.

Tutors, please tell your student about the above offer.

- by order of the committee 26/1/25

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.

Coombe Library

New books & DVDs have been added to the Coombe Library. See Peter Orange if you want to borrow a book. From time to time, Peter will bring the books to demonstrations.

July 50/50 Raffle Winner

Won by Giles Headley.



Air Ambulance Raffle Winners

1st prize Emma Taylor, 2nd prize Jen Dixon, 3rd prize D Archer
4th Sunny, 5th David Gillespie, 6th Giles, 7th Julie Flanagan
8th Graham Ball, 9th Reid, 10th Yvette Bekker, 11th Jenny Bugesa
12th vneen, 13th Paul Baker, 14th Paula Barlow, 15th Karen Allen
16th Rebecca Keogh, 17th Graham Ball, 18th Amit Modhuaria
19th Miss K Kaur, 20th Meena, 21st D Archer, 22nd P Flynn

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 September 2 Ornamental Turning Malcolm Thorpe
Tuesday September 16 Hands-On Christmas Theme

Contact Rob Sheehan 07905185122

Tudor Rose Woodturners

Thursday 25 September Rick Dobney Demonstration

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

West Midlands Woodturners

Sunday 21st September Hands On – Texture & Colour

Contact Chris Jones 07580 195561 crjones5691@gmail.com

West Northants Woodturners

Wednesday 3rd September Steve Kearvell

Wednesday 17th September Dan Smith

Contact Tom Donnely 01327 349093

Trent Valley Woodturners

Wednesday TBD

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

Heart of England Woodturners

Saturday September 13th Gary Rance All Day 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

Month	Date	Day	Location	Event
Feb	21	Fri	S	Snail, Paddy Byrne
Mar	15	Sat	W	Paul Hannaby
Apr	6	Sun		Daffodil Festival
	25	Fri	S	Segmentation. Bill Nicholson
	18 - 21	Fri - Mon	C	Easter Festival of Crafts
May	09/10/	Fri/Sat		Woodworks At Daventry
	17	Sat	C	Hands-On Sharpening
July	12	Sat	W	Phil Steele Windsor Chair
Sept	6	Sat	W	Scroll Saw. Gianni Deidda
Oct	17	Fri	S	Andy James
Nov	15	Sat	W	TBD
Dec	13	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

Scroll Saw Masterclass with Gianni Deidda
Saturday September 6th. 10 am - 4 pm Walsgrave Baptist Church

Coming up

Miniature turning with Andy James. Fri 17th Oct. Shilton