



Ryedale Woodturners

News Bulletin 26 – 6 July 2025

Hello all

Club night Thursday 3 July– Martyn Weller – Greek vase

Martyn took us through the thought processes in designing a vase inspired by the classic Grecian urn, including the use of the golden ratio: $1.618...$ (or $(1+\sqrt{5})/2$ to be exact). As Keats said in *Ode on a Grecian Urn*, “Beauty is truth, truth beauty,—that is all Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know”. As Martyn said in response to Geoff’s question “What’s a Greek Urn?”, “about 30 bob a week” (*Morecambe and Wise*).

There are calipers available for measuring in the golden ratio, or you can make your own – Geoff sent a link to a short video on YouTube -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0bipvVZyVo>. There are also lots available to buy – just type *Golden Ratio calipers* into Google (apparently they are good for creating the perfect eyebrow length!). Martyn showed Carl Ford’s instructions for making the calipers, available at <https://carlford.us/blog/?s=golden+ratio+calipers>.

During the demonstration Martyn covered a number of turning techniques and offered handy tips generated from experience – including picking up fallen items, stopping shavings getting in drinks, and how to take “half a smidgeon” from the inside of a vase. He finished the vase at home – a photo is in the gallery below. The video recording of the evening is available on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/AMjeE2OZBo8>. All delivered with Martyn’s usual brand of humour, clarity and precision. As John summarised at the end – we have a wealth of skill and experience in the club, it was good to see an example of this on display during the evening.

The importance of good dust extraction

A message from Phill:

I thought I'd share these photos which demonstrate how important it is to have good breathing protection. The first one is after an hour of turning and sanding, the second is after one pass of a vacuum cleaner. I also use a camvac extractor at the lathe and a roof mounted filter.



The photo here shows a filter on an Axminster Evolution respirator mask, £300, (or a JSP powercap, £270, they are the same design). Other versions vary in price upwards. They might seem a bit high in price, but I cannot find a new set of lungs listed on Amazon to compare.

Upcoming events

Thornton le Dale Show Wednesday 6 August

We will be having our usual marquee at the Show, with items for sale and information about our club and woodturning generally. Anyone who can help with erecting the marquee on Tuesday 5 August, 2pm, or with any part of the day on Wednesday (10 am – 5pm), or dismantling the marquee (5pm) please [let Geoff know](#).

Open Evening Thursday 7 August

Our next club nights will be an Open evening, when there will be six lathes in operation plus a handful of related skills. Geoff, who is organising the event, has already sent a few details around to members: more to follow nearer the time. This is a free entry evening, open to members, guests, and anyone else who is interested. Feel free to invite people along.

Exhibition and sale, Hill Institute, Thornton le Dale, 13-14 September

Our annual September sale. Please volunteer to help or to provide items for sale, or ask any questions on how to go about selling – email info@ryedalewoodturners.org.uk in the first instance. More details nearer the time – but GET TURNING NOW!

AGMs

Someone asked me about whether the Club had an AGM. We used to have AGMS in August when the club year ran from September to August. At these meetings we received an annual financial statement and a report on club activities, considered any changes to the committee and fees, and sometimes had a show and tell. Not many members attended, certainly the lowest number of the year. We changed to calendar years (January-December) after our Covid lay-off 2020-21, and replaced the AGM meeting with an open evening. We now publish annual accounts via the weekly bulletin at the end of the calendar year, plus a report on activities (and a video), we review committee membership and our constitution at this time, and we offer show and tell opportunities at the December social. I think the open evening is a better use of one of our 12 monthly club nights than an AGM – I hope others agree. Any comments do [let me know](#).

Gallery



The completed Grecian urn or Greek vase from Martyn. Cherry with a walnut band. Plus some alternative versions on display on the evening.

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