



Ryedale Woodturners

News Bulletin 39 – 5 October 2025

Hello all

Club night Thursday 2 October – Steve Fearnley – turning items to sell

Well, it was a busy night for me, but I hope everything went reasonably alright. Apologies that once again I didn't manage to complete one piece, instead doing parts of 3 different items, and using "here's one I made earlier" to see where they would end up. My intention was to show a variety of techniques and tools, particularly with a relatively large number of new faces in the audience. I hope those of you who have seen previous demonstrations of mine didn't mind some repetition of things I have covered before.



Attendance was 48 members plus 6 guests, and 4 on Zoom. Not quite our best (65 for Jimmy Clewes in January 2005), but we are steadily improving, with average attendance at 44.6 so far this year, compared with our lowest of 26 in 2017-8.

You can view the demonstration on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/tyNttSvDOg8>. I realise that I didn't make the best use of the cameras, tending to hold things up to show you rather than hold them in a good area for the cameras. A result of doing these demonstrations once every two years – lack of practice. Thanks to Ian and Keith for doing their best to pick up the details. There will be a write-up to follow, probably attached to next week's bulletin, written in a form that will allow those of you who fancy having a go at any of these items to follow the details.

I failed to do my sales pitch for the shop – I demonstrated the 3-wheel buffing system partly because many people will not have seen it and it is something I use all the time, but also partly because we have one in stock in the shop, brand new, available to buy at £61, with 3 wheels, mandrel to hold them, and 3 wax sticks. It retails at £75 from Chestnut Products. If you would like it, please [let me know](#).

Bottle stoppers

Many thanks to all of you who took on the bottle stopper challenge, some excellent and varied contributions. I did single out a 1st 2nd and 3rd and placed the wine bottles to indicate which was which, but perhaps I should have announced them as well. Apologies if you didn't see the winners marked out. For the record, photos of most of the stoppers are in the photo here. I will put those that were left behind in the next sale, and any proceeds will go into club funds, or they can be directed to you if you prefer, if you tell me which is yours.



For the record the winner was made by Richard King, which I know because he happened to be standing next to me when I put out the bottles (there was no intimidation or bribery involved!). I don't know who made the other two – please let me know if they were yours. There were very few criteria in my judging list – I did check top and bottom to see if there were any pimples, dimples or tool marks, and the rest was simply down to what designs I liked.

Yew wood

I brought a bag of 10 pieces of yew branchwood for sale at £5 for the lot, which someone bought. A ridiculously low price for such versatile and colourful wood, but it wasn't seasoned, the ends weren't sealed, it was donated to the club so there are no costs to cover, and I am running out of space to store wood for the club so I need to get rid of some! There is more, probably three or four similar bags, which will appear at the same price next month, or you can collect it from me in Thornton le Dale if you prefer. Please let me know in advance if you intend coming to my house for some.

Second hand equipment

There is a lathe for sale in Scalby. As is often the case, this is by a daughter clearing out her father's workshop after he has passed away. It is a Charnwood W820 variable speed, bench mounted midi lathe, a model still in production. I am going to have a look at the workshop today, so will gather more information. If you are interested, I would suggest it will probably be around £150 - £200, depending what accessories it has with it and it's condition. If you might be interested contact me and I will pass on the lady's details.



There may be some other equipment coming up for sale soon – very good condition and pretty much everything a woodturner uses. More details next week.

Chairman's challenge

John set his regular challenge to club members, with a deadline for judging **at the December meeting**, giving you two months to turn your attention to it. The specification is:

Turn a needle case which incorporates needle storage, cotton storage and a thimble. Any wood species can be used and there is no restriction on size.

If you are wanting some inspiration, you may recall Paul Hannaby made a needle case at our February meeting this year. The video is still online at <https://youtu.be/oCqpNJm79uQ>.

There are lots of other videos available on You Tube, and lots of photos on the internet of needlecases in all shapes and sizes, some with instructions for making.

Gallery



A gathering of gnomes, or gaggle of gonks, (What is the collective noun? AI suggests *a dons of gnomes*.) These were created by one of our newer members, Nick Webster. I can see the theme for another club challenge coming up next year!

And some pictures from Adrian Armsby. Two of his wife's pyrography creations, and a pair of lampstands from Adrian.



Good to see some photos from members. Please do send in a photo of anything you have made, and please bring items along to club meetings to show on our "display table", as Nick did this month.

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