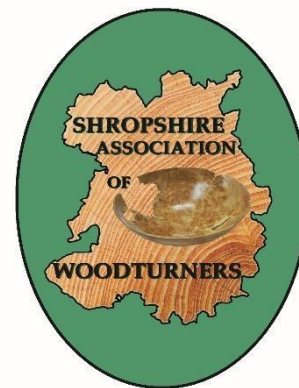


# SAW – December 2023

Members' Magazine and Information



## Christmas edition

Website: <http://www.shropshire-woodturners.org.uk/>

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### A welcome break

Happy Christmas everyone. Hopefully you will have joyful and festive time.

### 2024 Calendar

Below is the provisional programme for all of 2024 - thanks to Julian Birch and Cynthia Mee for an impressive amount of organisation to get here!

Month	Demonstrator	Club Challenge	
		Turners	Advanced turners
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Professional demonstration by Kade Bolger (online)	No challenge (online demo)	
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Woodfest	A goblet	A bowl 5-8" textured, stained or pierced
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Professional demonstration by John Dilley	A piece inspired by Kade Bolger in January	
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Professional demonstration by Stewart Furini	An example of off-set turning	A piece turned on at least three axes
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024	Professional demonstration by Chris Parker	A natural edged bowl	A natural edge bowl about 8" tall
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	All day demonstration by Rich Dobney	Something turned from a blank provided by the club	
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	TBA		
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Club evening	A platter 6-8" diameter to fit through a 1" slot	Another go at using epoxy resin
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> August 2024	Professional demonstration by Tony Jones	A matching pair	A wheel 8-12" diameter with 6 or 8 spokes
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	Club evening	A piece of fruit	A Harry Potter style wand
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2024	Professional demonstration by Emma Cook	A toy	A toy with movement
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Professional demonstration by Steve Heeley	A Christmas tree	A round jewellery box with lift out tray
December 2024	AGM TBA	Chairman's challenge	

## A message from the Chairman

I hope all the members who came to the AGM enjoyed the Auction and thank you to everyone who bided and bought items. It made some money for the club, helped to clear the storeroom and gave us all a bit of a laugh. Thank you, Mick, for doing the honours.

I would also like to thank those members that came forward to join the Committee even if we have yet to appoint a secretary but at least the club's future is safe for another year. I would like to record my personal thanks to Colin and Cythia who as the secretarial team helped me to find my feet as Chairman.

The rather static membership is a little concerning. I feel that to be an active and flourishing club we need to attract younger members. Although I am sure that all we try to welcome new members, we do not want to come across as a group of elderly males who are very set in their ways and attitudes. As Members and as demonstrator, we mainly come from an older generation, and so need to be very careful in the way we express ourselves. We do not want our attitudes preventing any potential recruits from joining the club.

So let's see if we can make 2024 a year of expanding membership, and all do what we can to spread the word that woodturning is a wonderful, absorbing, and rewarding hobby and that we are a welcoming, friendly and modern club where all ages and all genders feel comfortable and fulfilled. And of course, all participate in the monthly challenges!!

Happy Christmas to all and all the best for 2024.

**Julian Birch**

## Next SAW meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> January

As shown in the table above, the next SAW meeting is an on-line (Zoom) demonstration from Canada. Details of how to join will be sent out in good time so keep an eye open for the email.

In February, there will be the first club meeting of the year - There will be a raffle, lots of wood sales, the challenges and refreshments.

## Challenge for February

There is no challenge in January, but turners and advanced turners are invited to bring entries to the February meeting- as indicated in the table on page 1.

## The AGM on 5<sup>th</sup> December

21 members including most of the old committee turned out on a cold and misty night to support the Club.

Reports on the year were given by the Chairman (Julian Birch), the treasurer (Brian Scrivens) and the secretary (Colin Mee)

Changes to the Committee – Colin and Cynthia Mee stood down after two years of very significant support. They were duly thanked for their hard work through the year.

Julian Birch stays as Chairman, Brian was re-elected as Treasurer. Mick Caddick, Peter Eccleston and John Pitt agreed to stay on and were re-elected. Paul Plant, Alex Woodfine, Jeff Billing, Bill Cole and Ian Feldmesser were voted onto the committee so SAW should now be able to operate. Hooray! At least, it would if we find someone to take on the role of secretary; the agreed plan is that this and other roles will be decided at the committee meeting in January.

## Award of Trophies

Results of the monthly challenge competitions were announced by the Challenge Master, Mick Caddick. The trophy for Advanced turners (right) was awarded to Ted Barber – reflecting his consistently imaginative items all finished to perfection.



The trophy for Turners (centre) was awarded to Julian Birch – a just reward for his regular and impressive contributions throughout the year.



Julian Birch then awarded the Chairman's Challenge trophy (left) to Brian Scrivens for his colourful Santa on skis.

Other entries are as below:



## Display

Several members responded to the invitation to display some of the items they had turned over the year - a reminder of the skills developed, and effort put in.



## Other entertainment

After the end of the formal part of the AGM, there were refreshments- thanks again to Mick Caddick, Brian Scrivens and George Powell.

And then, in a first for SAW, there was an auction of unwanted bits and pieces from the Club storeroom – mainly tins of nails and old tools but with the occasional treasure for those with a keen eye.

## For sale

For health reasons, Geoff Henshall [gsh99@sky.com](mailto:gsh99@sky.com) , former member of SAW, is selling all his woodturning tools. Most are quite new, high quality "Easy Wood) tools made in the USA – so expensive (£800 for the set). Please contact him directly if you are interested.

## Newsletter changes

The next newsletter *may* be the New year edition. But I'm standing down as editor so everything could change.

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