



## AGM and Critique

At last some sunshine as members gathered for the AGM and critique in January. The business part of the day went smoothly with reports from the committee members and discussions arising from them. The committee was re elected on block. Membership numbers are relatively constant, hire of the hall has gone up but the raffle usually covers this and club funds remain healthy. Librarian David Spice, has drawn up new lists for members to sign when borrowing books, dvds and tools from the library. Please make sure that you sign the correct sheet. If you still have books borrowed some time ago, please return them for others to use. If you have ideas for hands on, please chat to Greg Collett. After the conclusion of the business the raffle was held, followed by lunch. During the break, a selection of wood, kindly supplied by John Turner, was available for members to take in return for a donation to charity. £172 was raised for Crohns and Colitis UK.

The afternoon critique was well supported with a variety of entries. The appraisal was led initially by Maggie Wright and Peter Castle then John Turner and Lynn Chambers. Some helpful and useful points were raised. Two items were drinking vessels and members asked about making them liquid proof. In November 2018, demonstrator Andy Coates, covered this topic. He recommended three coats of oil left to cure for three weeks or a proprietary finish. Rustins make a two part plastic coating listed as food safe. See their website. <https://www.rustins.ltd/rustins/our-products/indoor/plastic-coating-hardener-gloss>



Critique



A burl egg with resin infill coloured with Pearl X emerald green.

Peter Castle talked about using expanding foam to support fragile or irregular shaped work such as John Turner's large elm platter. Back in 1999, he had two articles on the subject published in Woodturning magazine (issues 72 and 74). If you are interested in reading these, please contact me. Another topic arising was the use of resins with turning. This material is gaining in popularity and is now more readily available from woodturning suppliers. There are several types of resin including epoxy and polyester. Polyester resins such as those available from Halfords, cost less and turn well but as the fumes are harmful must be used with caution. Epoxy resins are safer but more expensive. These are generally the ones sold specifically for woodturning by companies such as Stiles and Bates and Axminster. These resins also produce less or no air bubbles on mixing, making them easier to use. There are also dedicated online companies offering resins for specific purposes. Various colouring products for use with resins are also available. I particularly like the Jacquard Pearl Ex Powders. <https://houseofresin.co.uk> By the way, this company also sell moulds for pen blanks. The use of colour on woodturnings was also touched on but with so many different products and methods of application, there is not the space to discuss the topic here. The Critique is a valuable way of learning but depends on everyone contributing both in work and comment so thank you to everyone who did just that.

## Members' Work



More creations from the Winter Competition elm blank. Above left to right by Mike Moon, Peter Castle, Brian Pope and Maggie Wright. Left, by Mike Samme.



Delicate work by Richard Hasleden.



Large pieces using coloured MDF by John Turner.

## Subjects for the Summer Competition.

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Novice   | A set of eggcups.                   |
| Intermediate   | A vase with textured embellishment. |
| Advanced   | A box within a box.                 |
| The Founder's Cup. Open class for form and innovation. |                                     |

For the benefit of new members, our competition secretary, Peter Castle, has clarified the criteria for the open classes as follows.

The Founder's Cup was initiated by Allan Beecham, a founder-member of the club. Allan was always looking for innovative work with the perfect form and that is where we take inspiration for the competition. 'Innovation and Form', whether spindle or faceplate work are therefore your watchwords here.



German soldier by Mike Pollard.

## February Meeting

February 16<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 4.00.

Hands On Spinning Top Challenge.

Time to beat 2 minutes 14 seconds set by Greg Collett.

Please bring your tools and wood for spindle turning.

The open class in the Winter Competition is the Frank Elworthy Cup. Frank was of a like mind but wished to see more high quality spindle work. A set of extremely well turned chair legs could easily win the Frank Elworthy Cup as competency comes to the fore rather than innovation. Quality spindlework required here. Any faceplate work is incidental to the spindle work.

Chairman	Maggie Wright
Vice Chairman and Competition Secretary	Peter Castle
Secretary	Anne Smith
Treasurer	John Turner
Events organiser	Greg Collett
Librarian	David Spice
Newsletter editor	Sandra Day
A-V co-ordinator	Brian Rowson

[www.wealdenwoodturners.org.uk](http://www.wealdenwoodturners.org.uk)

## March Meeting

March 22<sup>nd</sup> 10.00 - 4.00.

Demonstration by Kevin Hutson.

Kevin turns aesthetic shapes, emphasising grain with colour.