

## Members at Work

This month's newsletter is the third since meetings were cancelled and lockdown due to Corona virus Covid-19 began. I am pleased to learn that members have been making good use of their time at home. This edition includes some individual contributions as well as photos of their work.

I doubt if many of you can match this volume of work over the last few weeks. Robert Hollands has turned well over one hundred pieces.



Something to cheer up fellow turners ?

I was given a chunk of pine from a tree which had to be felled and decided to tackle it as a "lock down" project.

Half way into shaping the outside I encountered a patch of GREY / BROWN tear out while also my eye shield being splattered by what I thought was sap, I discovered it was in fact rotten wet wood which had remained hidden. I kept gouging out the rot until I found it went right through the piece forming a tunnel close to where I would ultimately have to find a means of securing before reversing and working the inside.

Cremate or create ? I decided to have a go and first tried for a Mortice but the bottom immediately started to split so found what I hoped would be enough wood to use a face plate with short screws, it all held so I kept hollowing and wondered how John Turner managed his much larger and deeper projects !

The end result was only achieved after a lot of sanding and a couple of coats of finishing oil, good fun but more an ornamental bowl than any good for salads or cherries.

My regards to you and the rest of the members with my best wishes to all for good health.

Chips Bishop.



## LADY FIGURE



Nikos Siragas produced the lady figure during a presentation at Sittingbourne, Axminster Tools in 2018. Subsequently I have made a few. Wood with detailed grain is useful and can be turned from one piece or from 3 pieces dependant on your wood stocks. Hat can be brightly coloured to give contrast to the wood.

First piece covers hat/head/bust - wood size 55mm height and 50mm thick. When putting blank between the two centres, suggest turn hat from tail stock end to enable parting off to give nice finish to hat as the other end put on head stock where end then joins the second piece with a peg.

Mark up blank with depth measurements: hat bowl 6mm, hat brim 5mm, face 13mm, neck/shoulder 6mm, bust/waist 20mm (all measurements are only a guide). Start spindle shaping using spindle gouge or skew and parting tool on the hat then down to the waist. Sand and polish.

Second piece covers the body, waist to bottom of dress - wood size 45mm height and 60mm thick. Start shaping with skew or spindle gouge to give a taper from the waist to bottom of dress. Use parting tool to define end of the dress. Sand and polish.

Third piece covers legs and base - wood size 55mm height and 55mm thick. Start with shaping for legs with a taper by a skew or spindle gouge, finishing with a thin base, then parting tool to make base. Sand and polish.

Join the three pieces together with two pegs of 5mm thick and 15mm long. Turn a length of wood 40x10mm to make 5 mm thick pegs then cut into two 15mm lengths. Then either use bench drill or incorporate on the lathe by using jam chucks to hold piece to drill 7.5mm for each peg, or you can use a chuck with each piece when turning and pre-drill peg holes, but for second piece as you need peg hole at bottom and top and if you do not have a revolving tail centre you will need to use jam chuck into drill hole on tailstock. Glue each piece together.

During this difficult time of no informal chats at the club, if you get stuck in making the lady figure, do not hesitate to email for clarification [mike.pollard2@sky.com](mailto:mike.pollard2@sky.com) Mike Pollard



Mike's granddaughters like to hang their jewelry on these ladies.

An offcentre version for earring holders was demonstrated last June by Colin Smith. See newsletter edition July 2019



Peter Hawes has also been busy, turning a set of natural edge bowls in ash and a laburnham natural edge bowl.

I am sure members will appreciate these articles and photos and maybe send in some of their own. E-mails can be sent as a reply to this newsletter. Thank you to the authors in this edition.

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### July Newsletter.

Do you have a particular subject you would like explored next month? Unless there are any specific requests I shall look at the use of homemade devices, chucks and jigs such as router carriers, for use on the lathe. If you have made any such item please send details and photos.

It looks unlikely that meetings will be resumed in the near future so keep busy in your workshops, and stay well and happy.