

**The Erewash Valley Woodturners Association
Lockdown Newsletter**

26th April 2020

Issue No.1

Dear member,

I hope you are keeping safe and well during these difficult times we are all having to face.

Thankfully the weather has generally been sunny and relatively warm these past few weeks, enabling us to spend time in our gardens as well as workshops.

With this weather the scope of jobs in the home seems endless. The main, but not only difficulty, is obtaining raw materials. Hopefully with the announcement of B&Q re-opening most stores, other may follow.

Thanks to those of you who have recently responded to my email suggesting we have a newsletter dedicated to informing members what we have been busy doing, during this lockdown period, and what we have been producing in our workshops.

Keep sending me your pictures and ideas.

Feel free to comment on the content and I will attempt to share them with you all.

[To those members who rely on 'snail mail' (no slant on the excellent dedication to our postal service), I have enclosed a copy of the abovementioned email].

Here are the contributions, to share with you.

Please continue sending in your work, whether it be carpentry, cabinet work or of course lathe produced items.

1. The following from our Secretary, Trevor

“A square edged bowl made from a remarkable piece of walnut bought from Steve Wright a little while back. The rear view provides one possible explanation for the female figure on the shore!”



2. From Philip Harrison

Like you I've been busy in the garden and completing those jobs that "I must get around to sometime". On the woodturning front most of my activities had centred around tidying up the workshop and deciding just what to do with pieces of wood of doubtful condition and provenance that I had stashed away for a rainy day (I'm sure we all have them!).

My gut instinct was to move them into the firewood store but then I recalled a horticultural event my wife and I visited a couple of years ago where someone was selling garden mushrooms out of what appeared to me to be nothing better than firewood, so I set to work.

So far I've completed 7 or 8, some turned out of a single piece of wood, some with separate stems, all have something like 10mm dowel in the bottom to spike into the lawn or garden and I've treated them with either Danish or Teak oil (whatever needs using up), most of them went out to friends and family in lieu of Easter eggs and they've been really popular. I expect them to weather and split but that just adds character.

So, it's rather "agricultural" turning by Club standards but it's good fun, something for virtually nothing but enjoyed by the recipients.

All the best to you all.



3. From Bob Baron

The Mirror Dish is my re-working of the mirror bowl that Jason Breach described in Woodturning August 2019. The dish makes use of thinner stock than the original bowl design, approx.. 10 inches diameter. The crescent shaped indent was turned by holding the dish at an angle in the chuck jaws and yes, I do wear full face protection! It was made using ash, walnut and meranti.

For acrylic mirrors check out Circle Crafting Mirrors on ebay.

Please feel free to give out my contact details to members.

For further information, Bob's mobile telephone number is:

07947 066 459



4. From yours truly

As mentioned in my email recently here is the long- awaited “brownie point” dovecote.



And the birdboxes. Made from the discarded drawers that would have been taken to the council tip. All have been donated to near neighbours and friends.



I was planning ,for the cancelled Hands On of 25th March, a theme for Easter using offcuts from the workshop. Here are a few left over. The bulk were given to local children and friends over the Easter weekend.



5. From John Young

I have been playing in my workshop. I am currently making a toy merry go round with a music box mechanism. I have turned the base and got the floor of the roundabout rotating and the music mechanism working. After 30 years of faithful service, yesterday my pillar drill gave up. The bearings are worn and the condenser on the motor has packed in. I tried to order a Jet model but they are unavailable and manufacturing has ceased for the time being. I have ordered an Axminster one instead. I have also made square work trinket boxes.

A yew natural edge one with wooden but hinges and a bird's eye maple framed one with raised Elm panels. The Elm was crotch wood and has some rugged natural fissures in it. I hope other members are also finding time to play. Have fun everyone!

John Young



