



*Oxon
Woodturners*

Newsletter

January 2025

Dear Members,

2025 kicked off on 7th January with Club Night, which is now held on the first Tuesday of each month. The turnout was very respectable given the freezing weather and, for many people, heavy snow earlier in the day.

It was particularly pleasing to have three visitors: one former member and two people who were interested in taking up turning as a hobby. It is to be hoped that they will join us again on the 4th of February Club night which is a 'hands-on' when they, particularly the newcomers to turning, can have a go.

The evening comprised a demonstration by Gary Rance, Patron of the Club and world renowned production turner and demonstrator. Amazingly, it is the 26th time Gary has demonstrated for us since the formation of the Club. It's always a pleasure to watch Gary and I'm sure that all members, from novice to expert, picked up something that will improve their turning.

Gary used his two hours to produce an earring stand and an egg-shaped box.



Gary in full flow making the egg-shaped box.

Note the safety glasses and fan in addition to safety shoes. Gary is allergic to wood dust and in his workshop uses an air cleaner, dust collector and powered respirator.



The finished egg box, complete with a small dink on the outside which, had he not been talking to us at the time, Gary surely would not have done! This is spalted Ash and Friction Polish, matted on the inside with wire wool.

All photographs by Ace North



The earring stand needs only the finish to be applied.

He used cherry for the discs and purpleheart for the spindle and finial. When in normal production, time being of the essence, Gary uses sprayed acrylic sanding sealer and lacquer to spray several stands at once.

Competition

This month's subject was the humble bowl and all its variants. There were a fair few entrants (not all seen in the photo) and the winners were:

Advanced

Tony Seeney (out of shot)

Improvers and

Beginners

1st. Chris

Hallsworth

2nd Joe Brash

3rd= John Temple

Jim Hanlon



Next Club Night is on Tuesday 4th February

It's a hands-on where we'll make some honey dippers.

The competition theme is Offset Turning.

Members who haven't yet paid their 2025 subs will be able to do so on the night by credit card, or cash if you prefer.

All the best and see you in February, Chris