



MID WALES WOODTURNERS

www.midwaleswoodturners.com

a branch of

The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

Newsletter : October 2020

Chairman's Ramblings

First of all can I say thank-you to Phil Dalton for his contribution to the September Newsletter. What an opportunity to get hold of some olive wood free from its source. When you look at the prices we pay for our supplies it is one of the more expensive timbers. Olive is a fantastic wood to turn, fine grain, a little oily, takes fine detail and polishes to a wonderful finish. There is only one drawback the natural oils in the wood will stain any steel, just like wet oak. Therefore be sure to clean and protect the lathe and tools after use. We would love to include any contributions like Phil's, it would make a change from my ramblings.

The Phone Call

"A friend of a friend gave me your number, perhaps you can help me with a spinning wheel. I have been given an old wheel but there are bits missing, can you make them as there seems to be a lot of turning needed."

Later that week she arrived with the spinning wheel and a pile of plans. After looking at what was missing I agreed to complete the wheel. Here we go, I need to make the mother of all, tension mechanism, the maidens, the bearing, the flyer, three bobbins, the ply mechanism and finally repair the main drive band.

I used oak for the spindles and walnut for the bobbin ends and parts of the flyer. The spindle turning was easy just like stool legs. There was one very important issue with the drive pulley [main wheel to maidens shaft] this had to have a v shaped groove, just like pulleys on older machines in our workshops.. There is also another pulley on the bobbin shaft which has a u shaped groove. When a spinner is using the wheel to ply the single thread to two or three ply there has to be a gentle brake on the bobbin.

I have completed the wheel, it spins really well and sounds lovely and quiet. The photo clearly shows the parts which I made. For those of you who have been to the Caersws Vintage Rally, there is always a group of ladies spinning wool with quite a variety of wheels. I have watched them and marvelled at the hand skills to produce the yarns. Now I know how the spinning wheel works.

Best wishes and keep safe John



Young Bryn

Below is a photo of our late member Bryn Edwards - showing his early interest in woodworking! Les was sent this photo by Bryn's cousin along with some books and magazines of Bryn's - which members will be informed of at a later date.



MEETING COSTS

Members : £9 each, Family Members : £15 per family, Guests of members : £10 each, Non-members : £15 each

CLUB CONTACTS

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