



# Trafford & District Woodcraft Club

## NEWSLETTER

Club Website: [www.traffordwoodcraft.co.uk](http://www.traffordwoodcraft.co.uk)

### DECEMBER 2019

#### CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

The big event this month was the Ashton on Mersey Christmas Fair. This has usually been a success for us apart from the year when it was literally blown away.

This year ,although with not the best of weather, attendance was good and we did well on sales with over £600 taken apart from David Thwaites own sales.

In the last demonstration by Ako (aka Dave Atkinson ), he turned a novel bowl with a map of Trafford instead of a rim. This caught the eye of the Mayor of Trafford and we offered to finish it and present it to him. Then we found the map was bit like Manchester and not much like Trafford, So Dave has offered to redo it with the right map.

At the same Plumley meeting where this was negotiated , Martin arranged with Geoff Grimes to assist with getting our video operation working. To do this we will need to invest in some new cameras.

I am writing this while still suffering a heavy head cold similar I think to that which has laid David Jones low for a few weeks. I trust all will be fit for the party on 10<sup>th</sup>.

As this is the last Chat of 2019, I would like to wish all members a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. However I trust that we will see many of you at the Christmas Party, an ideal opportunity to meet socially and to meet our "other halves " and newer members.

**Robin Walling**

#### **2020 DEMONSTRATIONS**

There is a full list on TDWC notice board and a calendar at the back of every month's newsletter There is no demonstration in JANUARY and for the FEBRUARY Demonstration it is our very own David Thwaite.

The Club now has a pukka ,free standing, notice board so there is no excuse not to be able to read the notices! 📖

#### **XMAS & NEW YEAR CLUB MEETINGS**



There are only 2 TDWC meetings in December

As there are so many new members this year it seems only fair to advise everybody as follows

There is no demo night in December but a Club workshop night on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

The TDWC XMAS PARTY is on December 10<sup>th</sup> - more details on Page 5

The club is closed for 3 weeks: December 17<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>

We reopen on Tuesday January 7<sup>th</sup> 2020

**Julian Birtwell**

**Concentration** /kɒns(ə)ntrəˈeɪ(ʃ)ən/ *noun* the action or power of focusing all one's attention.

‘ Concentration can be difficult to obtain, but once one has a firm hold on it,  
then it can be difficult to let go.’

*Lauren Lola*



In a purple haze...seen recently, new member Paul Yates (above left and right) Jo Garry; (below) Studies in concentration demonstrated by Stuart Chadwick and Marianne Yates



*Photos by Julian Birtwell*

### **Demonstration by Andy Rounthwaite on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

It was Guy Fawkes Night and all over the country bonfires were lit. Throughout the land there was a wholesale burning of timber. Some of it was branches, rubbish or soft wood but I bet some decent quality hardwoods also went up in flames. What a pity the good stuff didn't end up on a lathe somewhere because even a small piece of beech from a broken school desk or some mahogany from an old table leg could be turned into a piece of fruit which will be valued, appreciated or sold.



This was the theme of tonight's demonstration by Andy Rounthwaite from Doncaster. Andy claims he has wood in his DNA as his grandfather was a forester and his dad was a hedgelay, joiner and hobby turner. Andy started off working in heavy industry and on building sites but had to stop work when he lost feeling in his hands through Multiple Sclerosis. Using his father's lathe he tried turning and found that he could do this and was quite good at it and enjoyed it. Ten years ago he met Tony Wilson who is disabled and turns from a wheelchair. Tony, who has demonstrated here many times, advised him to get qualified and become a professional turner.



The demo was in two parts –first Andy made an apple out of padauk and then after the break he made a pear out of ash. For the apple he mounted a 3" x 3" x 4" piece of padauk between a stebcentre in the headstock and a rotating tail centre. This was quickly turned to a cylinder using a spindle roughing gouge. He used a parting tool and a small skew to cut a dovetail chucking point on one end. The piece was mounted in the jaws of the scroll chuck and a spindle gouge was used to shape the top part of the apple.





The proportions look best if the widest point of the apple is about one third down from the top and this width should be about two thirds the overall height. He pointed out that although you can hold a roughing gouge like a chisel it is better to hold a spindle gouge like a pen. He made the top centre deeply recessed and then in the middle of this used a stationary drill bit to make a hole for the stalk. This part of the apple was now sanded with the lathe on a slow speed and a dust extractor in place.

He noted that if you use very sharp tools the sanding can be much reduced and that basically the coarsest grit (e.g.120) does the sanding/smoothing as the purpose of each of the following grits is to remove the scratches made by the previous grit. The final 'grit' was 0000 steel wool which takes dust out of the grain whereas sand paper tends to push dust into the grain.

The finishing process began with painting the surface with sanding sealer which had been diluted down with cellulose thinners (40% sealer, 60% thinners). When this had dried it was 'cut back' by gently wiping the surface with 0000 wire wool and then the surface was sprayed with melamine lacquer. This is best for pieces which may be frequently handled as it gives a longer lasting shine than a wax finish.



He separated the apple from its chucking point using a parting tool and then remounted it with the top end held firmly in a modified scroll chuck fitted with soft jaws he had made from wood and lined with neoprene rubber. Using a smaller spindle gouge he finished off this bottom end, making a small pimple where remnants of the apple flower are usually found. This bottom end was now sanded as before but at each stage the sanding was taken slightly beyond the finishing line of the previous grit. After sealing and cutting back it was sprayed with melamine. The final step was to glue in a stalk made from scrapped black piano keys. He noted that superglue can be kept fresh by storing it in the freezer.



The process for the pear was very similar – he started with a 3" x 3" x 5" piece of ash. This is a much harder wood so he advised using finer cuts to avoid tear out. The only difference from the apple is that

the bottom of the pear is the first part to be shaped. When the piece is re-mounted in the soft jaws the narrow end of the pear is the last to be shaped.



Tonight there were about 22 members and guests, many of them having very little experience of turning. They will have learned a lot but if they are inspired to try turning some fruit they might be hampered by not having access to the soft jaws that Andy used when shaping and polishing the second half of the fruit. This can be done by an alternative method using a fine screw mounted into an old parted-off dovetail chucking point. The screw goes into a hole that was drilled into the fruit during the first stage. This screw is tightened until the fruit is pressed tight against the chucking point which has been lined with a pad of cloth or paper to protect the shiny surface which was finished in the first stage. For an apple the hole is where the stalk goes; but for a pear there is now a hole in its bottom. This is usually filled with a clove from the kitchen spice rack and it looks very good indeed.

**John Willson**



**Sale West Community Centre 19-00pm – 21.00pm**

**DO COME AND JOIN US - Free entry to members & partners.  
We do hope that most of you are able to join us.**

**Food & drink donations most welcome: If you haven't already done so please add your name and food/drink contributions to the list on the notice board**

**Good seasonal fun, Shared interests and Friendship!!  
Light Music, light hearted competition/puzzle and light conversation**



**Donations for Raffle invited and buying a few tickets really welcomed as it is all for club funds. Martin is happy to receive your prize gifts at next club night or early on the night.**



**Wood Craft Competition:  
Your favourite item not seen before @ TDWC  
Please do enter and also help make it a good display.**



**TRAFFORD & DISTRICT WOODCRAFT CLUB as at 22/11/2019**

TIMETABLED CLUB NIGHT EVENTS		BI MONTHLY COMPETITION
DATE	DEMO nights 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesdays monthly 18.30 – 22.00. -Turned 2019 Xmas Party on December 10th 18.30 – 22.00.	3 classes - Carved
	All other 'Normal workshop' Tuesdays 18.30 – 21.30	- General woodwork
Nov 26 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Normal club workshop	

Dec 10th		<b>Club Xmas Party</b> Free entry to members & partners. Sorry not a rave, just good seasonal fun!!	<b>Competition:</b> Your favourite item not seen before @ TDWC
<b>Food &amp; drink and Raffle Prize Donations most welcome:</b> Please add your name and food/drink contributions to the list on the notice board			
Dec 17th		Closed -- Merry Xmas & A Very Happy 2020	
Dec 24th		Closed -- Merry Xmas & A Very Happy 2020	
Dec 31st		Closed -- A Very Happy 2020	
Dec 17th & Dec 24th & Dec 31st		Closed -- Merry Xmas & A Very Happy 2020	
<b>DATE</b> 2020	<b>TIMETABLED CLUB NIGHT EVENTS</b> DEMO nights 1st Tuesdays monthly 18.30 – 22.00. (Feb to Nov) Xmas Party on December 8th 18.30 – 22.00. All other 'Normal workshop' Tuesdays 18.30 – 21.30		<b>BI MONTHLY COMPETITION - 3 classes</b> -Turned - Carved - General woodwork
2020 Jan 7th	Normal club workshop <b>**NO DEMO IN JANUARY**</b>		No Competition this month

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

The second instalment of membership fees £45 was due on 1<sup>st</sup> October (**before 30<sup>th</sup> November**)

Did YOU remember to make good with our Treasurer?  
If not, then please see David Jones soonest

*After two months if membership lapses and you wish to continue as a member, then you will be treated as a new member and pay a £10 rejoin fee*

### Trafford & District Woodcraft Club

Chairman & Librarian: **ROBIN WALLING** 0161 929 8472

Secretary: **MARTIN NIELD** 01925 757542

Treasurer: **DAVID JONES** 0161 747 0392

Events: **JULIAN BIRTWELL** 07779 874513

Committee Members: David Thwaite and Andy Wilkins

Club Website: [www.traffordwoodcraft.co.uk](http://www.traffordwoodcraft.co.uk)

*If you change email address, it is really important to inform the Hon. Sec. so we can ensure you get the newsletter*

**THE PROVISIONAL 2020 TDWC CALENDAR IS ON THE NEXT PAGE READY TO PRINT**

**TRAFFORD & DISTRICT WOODCRAFT CLUB**

DATE	TIMETABLED CLUB NIGHT EVENTS	BI MONTHLY COMPETITION - 3 classes
2020	DEMO nights 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesdays monthly 18.30 – 22.00. (Feb to Nov) Easter it is 1 week early on March 31 <sup>st</sup> - Carved Xmas Party on December 15 <sup>th</sup> 18.30 – 22.00. All other 'Normal workshop' Tuesdays 18.30 – 21.30	-Turned except April when due to  - General woodwork
Jan 7 <sup>th</sup>	*NO DEMO* Normal club workshop	No Competition this month
Jan 14 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop + committee meeting	
Jan 21 <sup>st</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Jan 28 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Feb 4 <sup>th</sup>	David Thwaite - Woodturner TDWC member	Competition – An eggcup
Feb 11 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop + committee meeting	
Feb 18 <sup>st</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Feb 25 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Mar 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Brian Ledsham – Woodturner TDWC member	No Competition this month
Mar 10 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop + committee meeting	
Mar 17 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Mar 24 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Mar 31 <sup>st</sup>	The Tiny Turner aka Emma Cook – Woodturner & Carver <b>** N.B. THIS DEMO IS 1 WEEK EARLY DUE TO EASTER BANK HOLIDAY **</b>	Competition - Any item with a natural edge
Apr 7 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Apr 14 <sup>th</sup>	TDWC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING followed by Normal club workshop	
Apr 21 <sup>st</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Apr 28 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Ian Clarkson - Woodturner and Tree Surgeon NEW TO TDWC	No Competition this month
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop + committee meeting	
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
<b>SUNDAY JUNE FRIENDS OF JOHN LEIGH PARK ALTRINCHAM **date to be confirmed**</b>		
Jun 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Yet to be booked	Competition – Something for the Bran Tub
Jun 9 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop + committee meeting	
Jun 16 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
<b>SUNDAY JUNE 21<sup>st</sup> SALE LIONS FAMILY FUNDAY @ WORTHINGTON PARK booking to be confirmed</b>		
Jun 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Jun 30 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Jul 7 <sup>th</sup>	Paula Keary - Bodger NEW TO TDWC	No Competition this month
<b>SALE ARTS TRAIL SATURDAY &amp; SUNDAY JULY**date to be confirmed**</b>		



Jul 14 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop + committee meeting	
Jul 21 <sup>st</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Jul 28 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Aug 4 <sup>th</sup>	Yet to be booked	Competition – A 'T' light holder
Aug 11 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop + committee meeting	
Aug 18 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Aug 25 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Sept 1 <sup>st</sup>	Chris Fisher RPT 'The Blind Woodturner'	No Competition this month
Sept 8 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop + committee meeting	
<b>SATURDAY TIMPERLEY COUNTRY FAIR @ LARKHILL TIMPERLEY **date to be confirmed**</b>		
Sept 15 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
<b>SATURDAY &amp; SUNDAY HAYFIELD SHOW &amp; SHEEP DOG TRIALS **date to be confirmed**</b>		
Sept 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Sep 29 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Oct 6 <sup>th</sup>	Yet to be booked	Competition – A box/bowl with a lid
Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop + committee meeting	
Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Oct 29 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Julian Birtwell – Woodturner TDWC member	No Competition this month
Nov 10 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop + committee meeting	
Nov 17 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Nov 25 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
<b>SALE ARTS TRAIL XMAS BAZAAR &amp; ASHTON ON MERSEY VILLAGE XMAS FAIR - DATEs TO BE CONFIRMED</b>		
Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	Normal club workshop NO DEMO IN DECEMBER **see 15 <sup>th</sup> below**	
Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop	
Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Club Xmas Party - free entry to members & partners. Food & drink donations most welcome. Sorry not a rave, just good seasonal fun!!	Competition Your favourite item not seen before @ TDWC
Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Closed -- Merry Xmas & A Very Happy 2021	
Dec 29 <sup>th</sup>	Closed -- Merry Xmas & A Very Happy 2021	
Jan 5 <sup>th</sup>	Normal club workshop <b>**NO DEMO IN JANUARY**</b>	No Competition this month