

W.S.W.C Meeting 16th March 2026

As usual our chairman, Stuart, opened the meeting, with the following announcements:

1. A reminder about 'Weird and Wonderful Wood', which is very quickly approaching. Last year we gave away approx. 300 items in our tombola. which left our prize cache severely depleted. We currently have approx. 125 items in stock, so really need our members to take to their lathes and produce some creations that we can offer as prizes. We also need volunteers to help with the running of the stand over the 2 days of the show.
2. Emma Cook will be doing a demonstration at Colchester Woodturners, on the 25th April, if anyone is interested in attending.
3. 'Woodturners - Daventry' takes place across the 1st weekend in May.
4. 'Woodturning Weekender' in Doncaster takes place over the Bank Holiday weekend, in August
5. AWGB 'Festival of Woodturning' takes place over the weekend of 10th and 11th October, in Stratford-on-Avon.

Stuart then gave a very warm welcome to Hayley Spooner who was our demonstrator.

Hayley started her demo by stating that she had been a turner for four years and this was her first public demonstration. Her project for this evening was a dipping bowl / platter made of cherry and walnut, and the tools used were a bowl gouge, scraper, and parting tool.

Hayley started by mounting a cherry blank 260mm, in diameter, X 40mm thick, which she then started to 'face' and turn into a disc. She cut a tenon on the face and then marked out for a wide foot, before proceeding to turn the outside of the platter, leaving a nice deep rim. Hayley then reversed the bowl, mounting the blank in the lathe jaws, using the tenon as the mounting point.

The face was cleaned and the surface marked twice to create a centre bowl 85mm in diameter (the second mark was 95mm to create the wall of the centre bowl). This was to create the recess to hold the 'dipping pot'.

The platter was hollowed out from the rim to the 95mm mark to create the dish, which will hold crisps / nachos /vegetables for dipping.

The platter was then sanded and finished with 'Odies' wood oil.



To create the dipping bowl a piece of walnut, size 100mm x 50mm, was mounted on the lathe. This was turned into a 'round' to a diameter of a similar measurement as the centre recess of the platter. A tenon 'chucking point' was cut onto the surface. Once sanded the cup was reversed and mounted in the chuck jaws for hollowing out. Hayley thinks it's a good idea to leave the bottom of the cup slightly thicker for stability. At this point Hayley did state that the cup should be big enough to take the standard dip pots available from the supermarkets.



This cup was then sanded and finished with Odies Oil.



The use of the two woods enhances the overall look of the platter.

For her first demo Hayley did a fantastic job explaining clearly each step of the process. Well done Hayley !!

Stuart thanked her for her demo and announced next month our demonstrator will be Stephen Kearvil of SK Crafts.

Member's Gallery

Malcom Kerr A selection of bowls destined for Weird and Wonderful Wood.



Colin Gipson. A selection of ornaments created using 2 different woods.



Martin Taylor. A couple of bowls finished with Jo Sonya special effects paints.



Richard Court. A practice blank using colouring techniques demonstrated by Stuart Furini, and a live-edge bowl.



Mel Goodwin. A couple of live edge bowls finished with cellulose sanding sealer, and wood turner's stick wax (kindly modelled by Kim)



Next club night will be on Monday 20th April 2026 at 7-30pm.