



## August 2023 Newsletter

### **Dear Members,**

This month, August, both our chairman and secretary were away on holiday. So your vice-chairman was left to run the meeting, in his bumbling way.

The turn-out was smaller than in some previous meetings. Nevertheless quite a lot was achieved. At least two new members went home carrying a bowl they had turned under the supervision of experienced members. And of course there was the usual chat and exchange of ideas among members.



I myself am grateful for the advice given to me by two accomplished turners about how to deal with a huge (twelve inch diameter) piece of walnut from a tree that had been cut down only a few days ago. They advised me that a rough rule for seasoning is to allow a year for every inch of thickness of the wood. That would be twelve years before I could make something for the person who gave it to me. I will be 100 years old by then so I may not be around to make her anything. A better idea is to rough turn it to a thickness of around half an inch and then it will be ready to finish in just six months.

The challenge this month was to make something that incorporated lamination. There were a small number of well-executed pieces on exhibition. The Advanced member's piece was a beautiful standard bowl with contrasting coloured wood in clever waving joints. Beginners' was won by a pretty life size apple, and second equal (by number of votes) was a twelve inch platter with a chequered pattern of black and white wood, and a small square edged bowl.



The first draw in the raffle was paused because nobody claimed it. So it was re-drawn. It was only later that I discovered it was I who held that winning ticket.

Next month's meeting is on 14<sup>th</sup> September. The challenge is to make something that is both turned and carved. See you then?

*John  
Vice-Chairman*