



*Oxon
Woodturners*

Newsletter

April 2026

Dear Members,

this month's Club Night on Tuesday 7th saw a demonstration by professional turner **Keith Fenton**. The subject was Xulons and Tubes. 'Xulon' is Greek for 'wood' so not in itself a particularly descriptive name for these unusual objects. Despite Keith explaining that the resultant turnings were purely aesthetic with no useful function, it was fascinating to see the techniques on display to make the end-grain xulons and side-grain tubes. Some members noted an application in making unique napkin rings. Turned wet, the intention is to encourage warping as they dry, which is why the tubes are turned as side-grain, giving rise to even more movement.



A Xulon

Competition

This month's subject was 'a platter'. Competition was fierce, particularly in the Intermediate Section where there were 6 fine entries.

Advanced Section

Three cracking entries:

Joint 1st Charlie Jones
(left). London Plane

Joint 1st Jim Hanlon
(right). Various woods



3rd Place Dan Finnemore
Spalted beech



Intermediate Section

1st Chris Hallsworth
Sycamore with colouring
(Hampshire Sheen Intrinsic Colours)



2nd Joe Brash (left)
Superbly segmented
oak.



3rd John Temple (right)
Beautifully-turned yew
offertory platter



Intermediate section entries not placed:

Andy Griffin (left), a really well-turned and finished platter made from purpleheart and parana pine.



Craig Jones (right) an fine oak lazy Susan chip-and-dip turned from worktop offcuts.

Ace North, a lovely platter on a stand (a Tazza?) with a tricky pyrographed epigram. Unfortunately I didn't record the wood.



Next Club night is on Tuesday, May 5th

This will be a hands-on with the theme of **inside-out turning**. As usual this will be kicked off by Charlie Jones. We will also have a couple of sharpening systems on hand to sharpen the Club tools and yours, if you bring them along.

The competition theme is **a pair**.

Reminders

Dalmann will host an open day on April 11th with demonstrations from Les Thorne. The event is free and includes refreshments. Les is no stranger to our Club and the chance to see him for nothing is worth the visit alone..... quite apart from the tempting wood supplies at Dalmann. Check them out at:

<https://www.dalmannuk.com>

<https://www.noturningback.co.uk>

Harcourt Arboretum's Spring Fair is on Saturday May 9th and the Club will have a gazebo with turning demonstrations and members' work for sale (with a portion of the proceeds to Club funds). Please do come along and let us know if you want to help in any way or have items for sale. Call me on 07590 813038.

All the best and see you in May, Chris