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Meeting every 2nd Thursday at 7pm in the Wooldale Community Centre, Robert Lane, Wooldale, Holmfirth, Huddersfield. HD9 1XZ. Website: www.huddersfieldwoodturners.org.uk

Newsletter March 2011

Dear reader,

How different ones outlook changes when we get a bit of warmth from the sun. We have had some wonderful days this March which really get me wanting to get up and do things...and so I have. But enough tittle tattle. [Steve Booler](#), a Rotherham Tree Surgeon came to our last meeting and gave a good account of his work and what he can provide, and it proved a very entertaining evening. Much thanks also to his generosity for donating some wood for our auction.



Some of the wood in Steve's yard waiting to be converted...a lot of Yew on the left.



Steve's yard is at Northern College, postcode S75 3ET. His mob. 07831 645443 and home no. 01709 854849, email: steven@stevenbooler.orangehome.co.uk. For those not at the meeting his range of wood was Beech; Spalted Beech; Yew (plenty); Sycamore; Ash; Elm; Oak (plenty); a bit of Lime; Holly; Cherry; Horse Chestnut and Sweet Chestnut;

He uses a Woodmiser to cut the logs into planks, and has enough equipment to manage any size of tree even to 5' diameter. He says that most of the wood is left in log form until needed and then he cuts it into planks.

One of the best ways to spalt timber is to either put it into a damp place or tie up in a plastic bag for 6-12 months, but keep your eyes on it and not to let it spalt too much and go rotten.

I should also point out that his prices are one of the cheapest you will find anywhere!

Club News.

- Our next meeting on Thurs 14th April is with a **Robert Sorby** representative.
- You also have time to complete a Square Edged bowl for our competition this month. They are only once every 2 months. It can be any size and with decoration but has to have a square edge in the design. You may remember Tracy Owens bowl at auction. Please try hard and enter the competition you may surprise yourself?
- Speaking of which, we made, together with the wood donated by **Steve Boler**, £102.50 to be shared with the Club and our new charity (**Forget-me-not**).
- Well done to those who took home a piece of Beech to make something with to sell at our newest event at the **Holmfirth Art-week festival**, 3-8th July (set-up 30th June) This is in collaboration with **Hens-Teeth**, a Penistone and District Craft organisation the club has joined. Please also keep on making other items that we can sell at the craft fair.
- The club is also probably going to take part in **Honley Show on 11th June**. But we shall decide at our next **Committee meeting** which is on Monday 4th April, 7pm at The Sovereign Pub at Shelley.

Apart from what you are doing with the piece of Beech you can also make as many items as you can to sell at these craft fairs like: Spinning-tops; Pens; Mushrooms; Bowls; Boxes; Light holders; Light-pulls; Candle-holder; Pedestal Bowl; Bangle; Dried flower vase; Pendants; Honey dribblers; Fruit; Egg-cup; many of these can be made from Off-cuts, so go on, turn away!

- Please try and remember to bring a Raffle prize if you haven't done so for a while, it all helps club funds, without such raffles we would find it hard to get the quality demonstrators that we do.
- Club members decided that it would be a good idea to adopt a "**Mentor**" system for new members, someone to look after the interests of someone new and show them the ropes, as well as advise on problems they may encounter. Joe, Richard, Peter, Robert Tyas, Doug, Chris and myself offered our services for this idea.....thanks.
- One of our ex members, **John Durrans**, is selling a lathe, a Draper WTL90-with 10 speeds, 12" over the bed, 32" between centres, Rotating Head, cast-iron bed and on a bolt on metal frame. Price £130. Te. 01484 537809 (currently £443)
- Continuing our theme of photographing members work, would **Edward Halstead** and **Richard Ogle** care to bring in up to 6 items to our next meeting, thanks.

Well folks that's all for now, do remember to have a look round **YOUR** website which is on the front of this Newsletter, Pat and others have put a lot of time into making it work, so do look round AND contribute if possible. This is **YOUR** website and if you want anything added or are not happy with, then this is the place to make your concerns known...just go to the FORUM.

Cheers for now

Chris Park

(secretary Huddersfield & District Woodturners.)