

Solution to the last issue's Wudoku

6	4	7	5	1	3	9	2	8
1	2	3	8	6	9	7	5	4
9	5	8	2	4	7	1	3	6
4	6	5	1	9	8	2	7	3
7	8	2	3	5	6	4	1	9
3	9	1	7	2	4	6	8	5
5	1	9	6	8	2	3	4	7
2	3	6	4	7	5	8	9	1
8	7	4	9	3	1	5	6	2

Forthcoming Attractions

September 2nd - Demo by Dave Springett

October 7th - Hands-on (a tool sharpening special, bring own sharpening jigs, tips and some blunt chisels)

November 4th - Demo TBA

December 2nd - Hands-on, Christmas special

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Woody's
World
The Newsletter of



August 2010

In the absence of our leader, Nick Milton, who is outrageously taking time out to be on holiday this month, John Davies will be master of ceremonies at **August's** Hands-on evening, in which we'll be making whistles.

July's meeting was another visit to Wellesbourne to see the jolly Warwickshire Pole Lathe Turners. We were welcomed by Matt Jarvis, Mike Ashton and Lorna. Having missed last year's visit I was really looking forward to this meeting and it was a great evening.



Here, I demonstrate how you can, with a pole lathe, use a skew chisel to produce massive craters in otherwise smooth pieces of wood.

It's all a matter of timing, tool angles, coordination, rhythm, balance, athleticism, skill daring and good looks.
[..or not - Ed's wife]

The Warwickshire Pole Turners first met in June 2006 and have a nice outdoor workshop with three lathes. If you look at <http://www.bodgers.org.uk/local-groups> and follow the link to the Warwickshire group you'll see a potted history with photos of the group.

According to Wikipedia (so it must be right) "**Bodging** is a traditional wood-turning craft, using green (unseasoned) wood to create cylindrical wooden woodturning via a traditional wooden-bed, pole lathe, most commonly chair legs and stretcher poles, historically for the Windsor chair manufacturing industry."

Later, it says in the early 20th century, "a bodger worked ten hours a day, six concurrent days a week, in all weathers, only earning thirty shillings a week". Some things never change....

The bowl turning in particular seemed to be a very different technique to the way one might use for electric lathes. This may be due in part to the fact that this lathe is mounted considerably higher off the ground than one you might have in your workshop.



The tool in use here was a ring type tool which seemed, to me at least to have a mind of it's own, I didn't have a long go at it but I got a few substantial dig-ins from it, so more practice is required there, methinks.

It would be very

interesting to try a conventional bowl gouge and a lesser working height to see if (for us Offchurchians) a normal technique is actually applicable. Maybe the fact that you have to have the treadle gubbins under the lathe mean that you have to have the over-arm stance.

The spindle lathes seem too be easier to master, probably because of the more normal working height and more conventional tools in use.

There were a couple of variations on the pole-lathe theme, there being no actual pole used for the returning the treadle to the uppermost position. Traditional poles lathes used a springy pole fixed at the lower end to supply the spring return. Two of these lathes had an elastic bungee over the top to pull up on the string which is wound the workpiece.



The other lathe had a curious overhead wood bending,

bobbin winding arrangement which seemed to work OK, but seemed like a complicated alternative to a simple bungee cord, maybe this is what they used before the advent of the bungee.



Woody's Wudoku

Fill the grid with numbers 1-9 so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 sub-grids contain all of the digits from 1 to 9.

	7	8			4			
6			7			9	3	
5						8		4
3		7		4				
	1				2		9	
				3		4		1
1		6						8
	2	5			6			9
			9			2	6	

Most excitingly, this month Woodies World HQ was inundated with a **letter to the editor**:

Dear Woody,

The advice in the last Woody's World about cleaning the belts on your SIP lathe was very good. If you don't do it regularly then you'll find that the pulleys jam. You then have to persuade your wife that the second hand Vicmarc lathe that Roger Gilbert's wife's work colleague's husband (I think that I got that right) is selling is a bargain not to be missed!

Two other tips - firstly VW Golf power steering pump belts make a perfect replacement for the SIP drive belt and secondly a couple of bags of sand on the lathe base allow you to turn off bigger pieces of wood than the lathe was designed for.

Regards, John (Davies)

Festival of the Tree

From the 23rd to the 30th August, Westonbirt Arboretum is hosting the Festival of the Tree. From the website www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/inf-d-6xclux it seems that this has been held annually since at least 2008. It says, "Over 130 of the best craftspeople from throughout the UK will gather at Westonbirt to display, demonstrate and sell their craft. From traditional to modern, there will be everything from furniture, jewellery, sculpture and much more. You will be able to see and take part in master classes, demonstrations and workshops."

Here's a sample of the sculpturing that was done last year, during the event, by the look of it.

The sculpting projects proceed throughout the week. The sculptures are then auctioned off



at the end of the event in support of Tree Aid, which is a UK based development charity supporting tree planting and re-forestation in rural Africa.

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum is situated in Gloucestershire on the A433 approximately 3 miles south west of Tetbury. The postcode is GL8 8QS, for you Sat Nav owners.

If you fancy day, even a weekend out a bit further afield, you might want think about visiting The Weald Woodfair. Held from 17th - 19th September. This is at the Bentley Wildfowl and Motor Museum, down in God's own county of Sussex, where they make the finest beer in the world, Harvey's Best Bitter. Sorry, went a bit off piste there.

The website www.bentley.org.uk/#/woodfair/4525168793 says that, "*There are a wide range of demonstrations, exhibitors and stalls, ranging from traditional woodland crafts, educational activities, trade exhibits, forestry demonstrations to products and timber for sale. Woodfair has something for everyone with lots of exciting activities for the whole family.*"



Then there's the motor museum there too, which looks interesting too for a bit of a change, and did I mention the wonderful Harvey's bitter from that part of the world?

The **October meeting** is a hands on evening, with Nick Milton at the helm. We'll be concentrating on the sharpening of tools. This should be an interesting evening, and it would be great if all you are skilled in the art of chisel sharpening, or if you have a particular jig which you use for the purpose could bring them along, for others to see and try. We'll also need lots of blunt chisels too, so please bring along whatever you have.

