



Ryedale Woodturners

News Bulletin 34 – 31 August 2025

Hello all

Club night Thursday 4 September– Ian Ethell – bud vase and square dish

We welcome back Ian Ethell after an enjoyable and successful [demonstration last April](#), when he made an offset honey-dripper and stand.

Schedule:

- 6:45 Doors open for setting up audio, video, chairs, tables, refreshments, etc.
- 7:00 Doors open for members to sign in, converse, look at what's on sale etc. Shop open new timber, blanks and second hand tools available.
- 7:25 Any announcements
- 7:30 Demonstration begins. Ian will be turning a multi-axis bud vase and a thin square dish.
- 8:30 Refreshment break.
- 8:45 Demonstration continues
- 9:30 Finish (approximately, by 9:45 at latest)
- 9:45 Clear up, everyone out by 10:00 pm.

The demonstration will be available on Zoom, and a recording will be on YouTube afterwards.

Join Zoom meeting

Time: Sep 4, 2025 07:15 PM

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81268653415?pwd=vfQokECpDVO6lrGDxPuL8Wti9zNMI.1>

Meeting ID: 812 6865 3415

Passcode: 556572

A reminder that there is a £5 admission charge for normal club evenings, payable at the door, which applies to guests and club members alike. This includes refreshments and a raffle ticket.

Exhibition and Sale Thornton le Dale Saturday – Sunday 13-14 September

Thank you for those who volunteered to help out in response to my request last week. We can probably run the event on what we have, but of course more offers of help – even for an hour or two – will be very welcome. It is still unclear who might be offering items for sale: please let me know if you hope to put some things in the sale. Remember, for anyone who cannot get to the sale but would like to have items on offer I can pick up a box from people at Thursday's meeting, or you can drop one round to my house before Friday 12 September. We will not be short of items for sale, but it would be good to have a wide spread of work from across the membership.

Some reminders:

- Set up on Friday evening at the Hill Institute from 4pm, (or Saturday morning from 9.30 am as long as I know you are coming).
- Items need a label on them showing the price and your sale number. (Ask me if you haven't got a sale number).

- Unsold items to be collected on Sunday afternoon at 4pm (I can possibly hold items by arrangement for those who cannot get there at this time).
- Prices need to be in multiples of £1 or 50p: no £5.99 type prices please.
- There will be a commission charged at between 10% and 20% to cover rental costs and allow a small profit for club funds: the level will be determined by the success of our sales.
- Payouts will be made a few days after the sale, either by BACS (preferred), or in cash at the next meeting.
- Anything to make your display more attractive is worth doing – small descriptor signs, visible prices, stands to hold items and vary the height of our table top display, bargain buckets, special offers A few small items at £5 or less are often picked up by casual visitors, but on occasion so are more expensive items that show your capacity for creativity and skill. It isn't too early for a few Halloween or Christmas items – look in the gift shops and you will already see them gathering!
- If you haven't been before please ask for directions to the Institute. The address is Maltongate, Thornton Dale, Pickering YO18 7LF. Parking may be available outside the Institute, but this is not guaranteed. Note the sale is NOT in the Village Hall!

Fangfest. Saturday and Sunday 6 – 7 September

The 25th Fangfest – Fangfoss Festival of Practical Arts - takes place next weekend. There will be all kinds of crafts on show and stalls spread around the village, as well as the two permanent well known craft businesses – *Fangfoss Pottery* and *The Rocking Horse Shop*. As well as displays and items for sale, there are lots of workshops on how to do things, available to book. It is a few years since we have been, but have always enjoyed it when we have, and hope to get there once again this year. More details on the [Fangfest Facebook page](#).

Rillington Show

Keith Gardam and I attended the 100th Rillington Show on Saturday, following a request to the Club to provide a judge for the woodworking categories.



Not too onerous a task – there were 4 entries in the *Turned or Carved Item of Woodwork* section, and 4 entries for the *Fabricated Item in Wood* section. A pair of bud vases with string wrapping and a well made display case were easy choices for first prize. There are lots of shows around at the moment – I believe Geoff has been up at the Bilsdale Show this weekend. Any reports on woodworking sections gratefully received.

Gallery

Phill Armes was inspired by my photos of utility kitchenware at Cromwell's House last week:

I had a go at the trencher from a very old and hard piece of oak from a mantle donated by a mate. It is about 9" square and has had its first coat of danish oil. Not perfect but more about trialling a process.



Phill tells me the corner circle (for putting your salt in) was done using a router. Also he has a Paul Hollywood recipe for a meal in a homemade trencher, for anyone interested.

Related to the trencher, Geoff pointed out the possibility that this is behind the phrase "square meal", such as in the Navy's promise of "three square meals a day". This is disputed by linguistic scholars who suggest the connection is "folk etymology", and "square" simply means "fair" or "honest", as in other phrases (e.g. "fair and square", "all square"). Before the wooden versions, trenchers were made out of hard bread, often stale. They were used to gather food onto from a communal serving area, then take away to cut up (trencher comes from French *tranchier*, to cut). They could be round or square, and to some extent our cheeseboards and charcuterie boards are modern derivations.

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