



NORTH WARWICKSHIRE & HINCKLEY WOODTURNING CLUB

NEWSLETTER April 2024

www.hinckleywoodturners.org.uk

Notes from the Editor

Inside you will find my report on the demonstration by Wolfgang Schulz-Zachau. Wolfgang recently appeared on the television programme “Handmade: Britain's Best Woodworker 2023”.

I have included some pictures from my recent holiday to Japan and Hong Kong. I've always wanted to go since reading the James Clavell novels Noble House, Tai Pan and Shogun. Both countries are a mix of old and new. It was a full-on tour with Wendy Wu. Everything was organised almost to the minute. We covered lots of sights but only very superficially.

Woodworks@Daventry is coming along soon. The best woodturning event of the year is on Friday 10th May and Saturday 11th May. It's free to enter and there's free car parking too. Volunteers please, to help put up, take down and represent the club at the event.

Daventry Sports Centre NN114FP. Approx 10am - 4pm on both days.

Coming up in May, we have a turning demonstration by club member Bill Bennett and a pottery demonstration by club member Giles Headley.

Sad news. Coombe Abbey club member and former treasurer Eric Taylor passed away on Monday 15th April. He had been ill for some time.

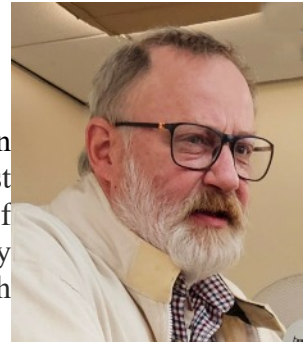
Rob Sheehan

Secretary, Newsletter Editor & Web Site Manager

Wolfgang Schulz-Zachau

By Rob Sheehan 16/4/2024

Wolfgang started by telling us about his time on the TV programme “Handmade: Britain's Best Woodworker 2023”. Filming began at the start of Covid lockdown. Filming on a Welsh country estate took five weeks for all episodes. Each



episode took three days to film with only one day off before filming started on the next episode. Their “big build” had to be planned beforehand with a little help from professional designers. They had to prepare a cut list and the wood was provided as per the list. The tools and equipment were on loan from Axminster. Wolfgang made the final three, but he didn't win.

Japanese Style Box

Wolfgang's project for the evening was a Japanese style box. The design was copied from pictures of the original lacquered box made by a Japanese craftsman. Information on Japanese Urushi lacquer can be found here

<https://japanobjects.com/features/guide-to-masterpieces-of-japanese-lacquer>

Warning: uncured Urushi lacquer is poisonous if touched or the fumes breathed.

Wolfgang sketched his design on a whiteboard. It consisted of a domed top, a base with gently sloping sides and the bottom curved into a small foot.



Box Lid

Wolfgang used an 8” diameter by 3” deep piece of crab apple. Using his own design of faceplate drive (ordinary 4” faceplate with 6mm pointed bolts), he mounted the piece against the drive and brought up the tailstock. Using a 1/2” bowl gouge, he trued up the face, marked the tenon size and used a 1/4”

spindle gouge to cut the dovetailed tenon. Wolfgang used the bowl gouge to true up the edge to round. A fair amount of timber had to be removed to get rid of some punky timber and bark inclusion. Holding the tenon in an Axminster Super Precision chuck, he used the bowl gouge with a pull cut to true up the face and to hollow out the centre. Wolfgang used a spindle gouge to true up the outside and to cut a small step on the rim of the lid which would fit inside a recess on the base. Wolfgang switched to a 3/8" bowl gouge with a shorter grind to turn the final finish inside of the lid. He then used an inertial bowl sander to sand the inside of the lid from 120 grit to 320 grit followed by a coat of Hampshire Sheen microcrystalline wax. Wolfgang didn't use sanding sealer as the tight grain of the crab apple doesn't need it to get a fine finish.



Box Base

The base was made from an 8" diameter by 4" thick piece of Monkey Puzzle. Monkey Puzzle is an ancient coniferous timber with scales instead of needles. Holding the blank between his faceplate drive and tailstock, Wolfgang used a 1/2" bowl gouge to turn the outside to round and true up the face. He then turned a chucking tenon, rounded the bottom corner of the box and created a gentle taper from the corner down to the chucking tenon. The base sides were only roughed out as they would be re-cut when the lid is in place. Using calipers, Wolfgang measured the lip on the lid. He



transferred the measurement to the base and cut a matching recess. A few trial fits eventually resulted in a good match between lid and base. He then fitted the lid onto the base and brought up the tailstock to hold it in place. Wolfgang then turned the side of the lid and base together to achieve a perfect fit. He then re-cut the curve on the bottom of the base. Wolfgang removed the lid and proceeded to hollow out the base. Final finishing was done with a round nose scraper. Using Abranet, he sanded the inside of the base and applied a coat of wax. The outside was not waxed.

Wolfgang then made a jam chuck to hold the box base. He first removed the chucking spigot, leaving a much smaller foot. He then sprayed a coat of Chestnut acrylic sanding sealer to give the best surface for the next step. Wolfgang sprayed two coats of Chestnut Ebonising Lacquer to colour the base black. This mimicked the original box's Japanese Urushi lacquer finish.

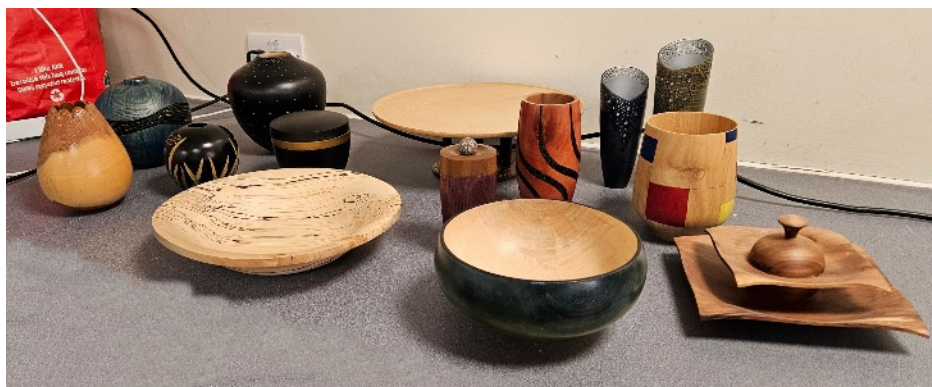
Using another jam chuck for the lid, Wolfgang domed the top of the lid. He then waxed the outside of the lid and buffed it to a finish. The jam chuck hides the rim of the lid so Wolfgang had to remove it from the jam chuck and wax the rim off the lathe. Wolfgang kindly donated the piece to the club.





Above - the finished Japanese Style Box

Below - Some of Wolfgang's work



Japan Holiday 2024

By Rob Sheehan

It's a 14 hour flight to Hong Kong and a another 3 1/2 hours to Japan. Add in the 2 hours to drive to Heathrow and I now need another holiday to recover!



Above left - Bullet Train.

Above right - Himeji Castle.

Below left - Hiroshima building remains after A-bomb.

Below - Hiroshima museum picture.





**Golden Pavillion, Kyoto
(1955)**

**Kiyomizu Temple,
Kyoto (778 - 1633)**



Mount Fuji
3376m high.
The volcano last
erupted in 1708.



Hong Kong
Avenue of Stars
Bruce Lee Statue

Hong Kong
View from my
hotel bedroom



Hong Kong
View from
Victoria Peak

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE & HINCKLEY WOODTURNING CLUB EVENTS 2024

January	2nd	No Meeting	
	16th	Demo	Rob Sheehan
February	6th	Demo	Nick Adams
	20th	Demo	Bob Smith
March	5th	Hands-On	
	19th	Demo	Peter Denning
April	2nd	Hands-On	
	16th	Demo	Wolfgang Schulz-Zachau
May	7th	Demo	Bill Bennett
	10-11	Woodworks@Daventry	
	21st	Demo	Giles Headley (pottery)
June	4th	Demo	Robert Till
	18th	Hands-On	
August	6th	Demo	Paul Hannaby
	20th	TBD	

Events at Other Clubs

Please contact the club to check times/dates/locations before attending

Coombe Abbey (Walsgrave Baptist Church 10 am)
Saturday April 20th demo by Mick Hanbury