

NEWSLETTER



NORTH WARWICKSHIRE & HINCKLEY WOODTURNING CLUB.

www.hinckleywoodturners.org.uk



LOTTERY FUNDED



December 2009

Health & Safety Notice

Woodturning can be dangerous! Always follow the manufacturers' instructions and safety advice when operating power tools. Never try the techniques shown at our demonstrations if you are unsure or the procedure does not feel safe. Always use the guarding and other safety equipment.

The Club takes reasonable care to operate and instruct in a safe manner and strongly recommends all members to follow the Club's Health & Safety rules and the guidance notes that the AWGB issue in their Revolutions magazine from time to time.

Data Protection

Your personal details are held on a computer belonging to an officer of the North Warwickshire & Hinckley Woodturning Club. Your details are only for the use of the club, and will not be passed on to any third party. If you object to your name, address and telephone number being held on a computer belonging to an officer of the club, then please write to any member of the committee.

Committee Members:

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Chairman's Notes

Being the newly "elected" Chairman I will start with an introduction. My name is Mel Turnbull. I live in Polesworth a village in North Warwickshire, where I live with my wife and three children aged 9-14. I started my working life on an oil rig construction site in the north of Scotland, moved on to work in a sign manufacturer in Tamworth. I spent 6 years as a kept man before embarking on the training for my current profession, a teacher, and currently work in a school on the outskirts of Coventry.

I took up woodturning about 3 years ago after trying to come up with ideas for my Christmas presents. I remember as a school child gathering round the wood lathe to be shown the principals. Then waiting, in line, in alphabetic order, to get a go on the lathe, I never got to the front of the line coming within 2 or 3. So a lathe for Christmas would give me a chance to correct this omission in my education. Woodturning has become my creative outlet and it never ceases to amaze me how beautiful wood is, and can be, even in my hands.

My Chairmanship has had a rocky start, as most of you know, due to the lack of a Secretary, it seemed for a while that my first duty as Chairman would be to close the club. Fortunately someone has reluctantly stepped into the role, but if there is anyone out there who wishes to take on the post please let me know.

Thanks to all those members who responded to the club questionnaire. I am sure these will be the source of many ideas for hands on and demonstrations in the future.

As I write these notes I am reminded that the Christmas social is not far away and I am trying to pluck up the courage to make a spinning top. I am not so much concerned with the club competition, more that if my kids get to see it I will then be tied up making one for each of them.

Finally I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Letter from the Secretary

Members of North Warwickshire and Hinckley Woodturning Club

As a founder member of the club I did not wish the club to fold because of the lack of a secretary. Therefore as no member has volunteered to take on the role of Secretary of the club I have reluctantly volunteered for this position.

My thanks to John Wilkinson for all his hard work as secretary over the past few years. I hope I can call on John for advice from time to time when I run into difficulties being unsure of the Secretary's role. I'm sure the rest of the Committee will help.

My thanks to Robert Sheehan for standing-in as Secretary after the AGM and up until I formally take over the position.

With the help of the Committee and the members I'm sure we can work together to make a success of the club in the coming year.

Looking forward to a successful, interesting and inspiring year.

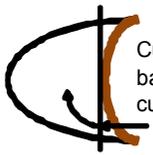
John Thompson

Steve Heeley Demo, 3rd November

Steve Heeley treated us to 6 examples of his turning skill on a well attended Tuesday night. He is naturally left-handed, but some cuts are done better right-handed, and he uses his right-hand with equal skill. He recommended that we practice with both hands too.

His first item was an natural-edge oval bowl, turned from wet maple. Using a ¼" long grind bowl gouge, Steve used a pull cut, from the bottom wing of the gouge, but finished with a bevel-rubbing cut to get the best possible finish straight from the tool. He would normally leave a wet turning about ¾" thick, so that there would be enough wood to turn it circular again after it had dried. A ¾" bowl would take approximately 3-4 months to dry. He would use PVA glue on any knots or cracks, seal the end grain and especially seal the foot and rim while it was drying.

The rim of the bowl was not level as it followed the contour of the bark.



Cut horizontally below the lowest level of the bark rim to get an even rim thickness on the curved edge of a Natural edge bowl

He showed how you have to cut parallel to the lathe bed on the inside of the bowl until the cut is below the level of the rim all the way round, to get

an even wall thickness.

His second item kept us trying to guess what it was. After roughing out a 1" cylinder, he proceeded to use a spindle gouge and a skew chisel to create a series of beads, coves and fillets. The final result was a Scottish spurtle (for stirring porridge). This would be finished in nut oil (if no allergies) and is dishwasher safe.

His third item was a wet-turned goblet in Cherry. For those of us new to turning, he described how to turn beads and coves. For a bead, make a V-cut on either side and mark a pencil line in the centre. Then raise, roll and lift the back end of the gouge in one flowing movement. For a cove, the flute of the gouge starts at about 10 O'clock and finishes vertical. Practice the shapes while removing the waste wood.

Steve's fourth item was a mushroom in dry Yew. He used the long point of the skew chisel to break the bark and a roughing out gouge to remove the stem waste. Sometimes he leaves the bark at the bottom of the base. He used a scraping cut with a skew chisel to start cutting under the cap. He then switched to a bowl gouge to complete the cut. Yew is prone to heat checks if it gets too hot during sanding. He uses sanding sealer thinned 50/50, and finished it with a 50/50 mix of beeswax & carnuba wax.

His fifth item was a small cabriolet leg with a knee. He used the long point of a skew chisel to create the edge of the pommel block and used a roughing gouge to turn the remainder to round. He then turned a bead at the top and bottom.

Steve then offset the piece at both the head and tail end (approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ way between centre & edge). See diagram.



Marking the solid centre, he used a $\frac{1}{2}$ " spindle gouge to taper the leg from the centre to the top & bottom. He sanded the leg while still off-centre, then replaced in on centres & merged in the two cuts. He also turned a foot on the end of the leg below the lower bead.

Steve's last item was a plywood apple that had already been part-turned. He warned that plywood quickly takes the edge off tools. Steve used a cup-shaped screw chuck in the top hole of the apple to finish off the base. He uses WBP plywood which is a better grade, but still needs to use a light-coloured filler to fill any breakout holes. He used 1 coat of sanding sealer, 2 coats of Melamine (thinned 50/50) and finished with wax.

Some of Steve Heeley's work.



Guy Ravine Demo, Sunday 29th November

Guy (a last-minute replacement for Greg Morton) provided an enjoyable Sunday demo for the dozen or so people who turned up.



Guy started with a Snowman Christmas tree decoration turned out of lime (Maple would be better as Lime is too soft). The rectangular blank already had a hole drilled. He used a heavy-duty bowl gouge for roughing out as it is less likely to catch. He then used a 3/8 spindle gouge and a 3/8 beading and parting tool to refine the shape. He used a skewchisel gouge to turn the centre section as its lack of a flute makes it less prone to vibration. He used his fingers to support the thin stem of the finial while he used a stub skew chisel to finish the piece.



Guy's second piece was a spinning top in Maple. This was turned using the 3/8 beading and parting tool. He then used a chatter tool to mark two lines of chatterwork on the top and bottom. He then coloured the chatterwork & outlined it with lines on either side. He uses "Kids Brush Top" pens from Tesco, as they are child safe. He also coloured the stem.

Guy's third piece was a Blackwood box with a pewter ring in the top and a pewter finial. He uses a special pewter heater that avoids the problem of slag forming on top, as the pewter is decanted from the bottom of the pot. Pewter is expensive (about £16 per kilo), so he saves all of the waste shavings, which can be re-melted and used again. Pewter turns easier than some woods. When cutting a channel for the ring of pewter, it is best to dovetail the channel, so the pewter is less likely to fall out. You can also use an MDF template to create pewter rings, and then glue them onto, into or around various turned pieces. The pewter he uses is lead-free. The finial was cast as a cylinder in a scrap piece of wood. After letting it cool, Guy mounted the wood/pewter cylinder in the lathe and turned it down to the pewter. He used a small skewchisel gouge to turn the finial & finished with 320 to 600 grit paper. He said not to use a coarser grit as it will scratch the pewter. Guy suggested Corn Metals, Cornwall or Alec Tiranti as suppliers of pewter.

Guy's fourth piece was one of several hundred key rings he has to make for a girls' school, made from a Beech tree that had to be felled at the school. Luckily, they don't have to be all identical!

Guy's fifth piece was an Ebony candle snuffer. He turned a block of ebony to a cylinder and turned a spigot. Mounting it in the chuck, he drilled the centre and used both a skewchisel gouge and a spindle gouge to widen and shape the hole. He then sanded it, but didn't use any finish, because all finishes are flammable. He put it back between centres and turned a finial on the top of the snuffer. He then turned the ebony handle using a 1/2" spindle gouge, turning a single bead at the handle end and finished with a skew chisel. The handle was then fitted to the snuffer cup.

Guy's sixth piece was a small 'Roman' bone pin made from marrow bone. Buy from a butcher and boil for 2 hours, changing the water once. He said you can use Brasso to polish it, and when using bone or ivory, soak it first in water, else it will be brittle.

Guy then turned an eccentric pear out of Ash. He turned the bottom of the pear to a finish. He used 2 coats of sanding sealer, 1 coat of friction polish and a coat of Chestnut wax. He then moved the top of the pear off-centre and used a bowl gouge to turn the top. He left a cone of wood at the top from which he carved the stalk. He used 80 grit sandpaper to merge the join between the centred and off-centre parts. He put a sanding disk in the chuck & sanded the stalk to shape. The stalk was then finished off by carving/whittling using a retractable scalpel.

Guy's next piece was a shallow platter turned from Scottish Wych Elm. Wet Elm will warp more than some woods. He turned the basic shape, leaving a large base. He used a 3/8" beading and parting tool to make a recess and used a skew chisel to make the dovetail. He then used a round-nosed scraper to refine the outside. On the inside, he undercut the rim to give a shadow line. A double edge has the same effect. He turned a single bead on the rim. He also showed how a cove in the rim can make plain grain more interesting. He would then use an oil finish as the platter was designed for food use.

Finally, Guy showed us a spindle reference diagram, that named and displayed all of the shapes that can be turned in a spindle. He then proceeded to turn each of the shapes - pommel, abacus, torus, beads, coves, filets, ...

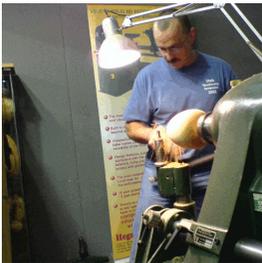


Harrogate Woodworking Show November 2009

This was held over 3 days, Friday to Sunday 20-22nd November. I went on the Saturday, and arrived at 9:45 after a 2 ½ hour journey. There was already a queue. It cost £8.50 to get in. There were plenty of exhibitors, trying to sell you everything from exotic woods, hand tools, power tools, finishes & the usual junk stalls. There were several big name demonstrators. Les Thorne, Mick Hanbury, Reg Slack, Ray Jones, Tracy Owen, Tony Wilson... Unfortunately, the demonstrators were working at their own stalls, so apart from the first 3 or 4 people in the front row, others could see and hear very little.



Ray Jones was giving his usual spiel on how to turn coves and beads, as well as trying to flog his DVD.



Tracy Owen was producing streamers of wet wood as he turned a hollow form.



Les Thorne was ebonising a vase, cleaning out the grain with an air jet and then filling the grain with gold paint.

ABRANET FOR SALE

ABRANET MINI SHEETS. 70 x 125mm, low dust.

120, 180, 240, 320, 400, 600 grit.

5 sheets of any grade £1.90

6 sheets, 1 of each grade £2.00

10 Self sealing plastic bags 100 x 140mm. 0.15p

PURCHASE AT CLUB MEETINGS.



Club Badges

Badges to sew on to your
Turning Smock or Sweat-
Shirt.

£3.50 each.

Steve Obrien

Video Library

Title	Author
Carving techniques & projects	Sam Bush/Mark Headley
Carving the human head	Michael Painter
Getting started in carving	Michael Painter
Natural edges & hollow forms	Chris Stott
Turning bowls	Chris Stott
Turning boxes	Chris Stott
Inlaid & novelty boxes	Chris Stott
Decorative effects & colouring	Chris Stott
Finishing for woodturners	Chris Stott
Turned boxes	Ray Key
Shear magic	Robert Sorby
Focus on Sorby tools	Robert Sorby
Hollow turning	John Jordan
Woodturning-A foundation course	Keith Rowley
Spindle turning	Ray Jones
The mini chair	Ray Jones
Elliptical turning	David Springett
Hand thread chasing	Allan Batty
Turning green wood	Michael O'Donell
Wet turning	Stuart Mortimer
Shop secrets from master craftsmen	USA Craftsmen
Basic routing	Roy Sutton
Advanced routing	Roy Sutton
Routing jigs & gadgets	Roy Sutton
Router jigs & techniques	Roy Sutton
Advanced routing (2)	Roy Sutton
Turning between centres	Dennis White
Twists & advanced turning	Dennis White
Small shop tips & techniques	Dennis White
Woodturning	Richard Raffan

Events Around the Area.

Coombe Abbey Woodturners.

The workshop is open every Sunday & Tuesday throughout the year
10:00am - 4:00pm

Contact Bill Nicholson 024 76618728

West Midlands Woodturners.

13th December Christmas Party Half Day 2.00pm start.

Contact Brian Goodall 0121 351 1912

Axminster Nuneaton

December 12th Pyrography & Fretsaws
December 18th & 19th Pen Turning

TOOLS FOR LOAN

The Club has a number of tools for club members to use during our 'Hands On' evenings and many of these specialist tools can be hired by members for use in their own workshop. The tools available for hire are listed below.

Please note that the tools must not be used for business purposes, they are for private use only.

Club members will appreciate that there will be some wear & tear when these tools are used, to enable the Club to purchase / replace the tools as necessary there will be a hire fee of £1.00 / month first month & £5.00 / month second month. It is the intention of the committee to invest the hire fees in the purchase of new tools if possible. The month will run from one 'Hands On' to the next, we realise this may not be a 4 week period. In addition there will be a £20.00 deposit to be held by the Club for the hire period (a personal cheque may be a convenient way to leave the deposit).

Club members are expected to return the tools at the beginning of each 'Hands On' evening.

Before taking tools on loan, members must satisfy the committee that they are competent to use the tool being hired

Club members must sign the disclaimer .

Tools Available for loan to club members:

Thread Chaser Set	Sorby Texturing Tool
Bowl Saver (Kelton)	Bowl Saver (Woodcut)
Axminster Acc.Mounting Jaws	Type H Med Gripper Jaws
Type A Dovetail Jaws	Sorby Eccentric Chuck
Pyrography Woodburning Station	2MT 2 Prong Drive Centre
2MT Hollow Live Centre	5/16" Long Auger
Arbortech Woodcarver PRO-4	Arbortech Mini Carver
Multi Tool Kit & Stand (Dremel)	Woodcut Hollowing Tool

Please see:

John Wilkinson or Terry Coombes

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE & HINCKLEY
WOODTURNING CLUB EVENTS 2010

Month	Date	Event	Demonstrator
January	5th	Hands on	
	19th	demo	Ken Allen
February	2nd	Hands on	
	16th	demo	Rosemary Wright
March	2nd	Hands on	
	16th	demo	Paul Coker
	Sunday 28th	tba	
April	6th	Hands on	
	20th	demo	Gary Rance
May	4th	Hands on	
	18th	tba	
June	1st	Hands on	
	15th	demo	Mark Ratby

Please note: -

The events highlighted in red are all day demonstrations

The next Sunday Demonstration will be on:

Sunday 28 March 2010 10.00am - 4.00pm.

Demonstrator tba

Tickets £10.00