



YewTurn

The Monthly Magazine for Norwich Wood Turners
Affiliated to the Association of Wood Turners of Great Britain
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The Vice Chairman's Report



Greetings All.

I van is not able to produce this months chairman's report so he has asked me to do it instead.

Our last meeting was a hands-on session and from reports that I have received and my observations on the night it was the best that we have had. I did not get round to see what everybody else was doing but you can read about the others later on in this addition.

I manned the small club lathe armed with my thread chasers, and instead of the usual mini demonstration I just stood and watched (together with contributing a bit of helpful advice I hope) most of the time whilst others used the tools. Some threads were formed successfully including male and female that actually screwed together.

The evening was almost brought to a halt by a power loss when the main RCD tripped out. As this was in a locked cupboard we initially thought that we might have a problem, but we were saved by Vic who had a key of his own that surprisingly, unlocked the door.

On June 22nd we had an excellent all day demonstration by Richard Findley about which you will read in Jon's report later. This was the best attended that we have had and I am sure that the committee will see this as confirmation that such events can be continued without depleting club funds.

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Although it may seem a long way off now, our annual competition takes place at our October meeting and it's time to start thinking about what to make. It would be good to see a lot more entries this year and not just those from the regulars. Don't forget that we also have a beginners' competition so there is an opportunity for everyone.



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Now a plug for one of my other interests. Some of you may know that I am a member of the North Walsham & Dilham Canal Trust whose objective is the restoration of the only canal in Norfolk. In order to raise public awareness of what we are doing and attract popular support we are holding an open day at Ebridge Mill on 27th & 28th July. It would be good to see some of you there.

You can find out more about the history of the canal and what we are doing at the EAWA website: <http://www.eawa.co.uk/work.html>

Barry

The Hands On Night - 7th June, 2013

Once again, we all gathered for a 'hands on' night, which this year, seemed to be much busier than normal.

My first victim for a chat was Jon Simpson. He has been a woodturner for about 6 years now, and gets great pleasure out of making smaller things, mainly spindle turned. His



favourite achievement is being able to make a Singapore Ball, due to the technical content. The main purpose of this evening was to demonstrate the skew chisel versus the spindle roughing gouge, and the fact that it will always give a better finish. Also, the fact that the faster you run the lathe the better finish you will get. A good deal of Jon's work is done at 3700 rpm. These hands on nights are an essential part of any club scene and members really must conquer their feelings,

and "have a go".

I van was there, piercing and finishing. The evening was an ideal opportunity to show people how to go about things, the pit-falls to avoid, and was an opportunity to pass on some information that may be of use to them. The real challenge was getting people to try rather than just stand and look. "My next project will be a 'Nick Agar' style platter as seen in Woodturning. I also want to expand my knowledge of airbrushing. Yes, I love making holes and painting them."

Mike Meakins was busy making his miniatures, something he does with a passion. Several people were seen to have a go, and I don't





doubt, a good time was had by all. Much of the work is done with normal tools, along with a selection of hand made tools for specialist working.

Darren was there, showing colouring, texturing, pyrography, burning, carving, anything along those lines as it takes his fancy.

Everything was there for the members to

have a go with under the expert guidance of Darren, a rare treat for us all. Clearly, the woodturning world is split into those that like brown and round, and those that like texture and colour. It is Darren's opinion that the 2 camps are getting closer together. Much of what Darren does is on Sycamore because it is a bland wood which takes colour and texture well. I am willing to



agree that colour and texture is more accepted now, but those traditionalists will always remain.



Barry Mobbs was busy all evening doing thread chasing with members, many of which actually had a go.

Thread chasing is something which had been requested by

several members. Barry enjoys these evenings, but, they would be so much better if more would overcome their inhibitions, and have a go.

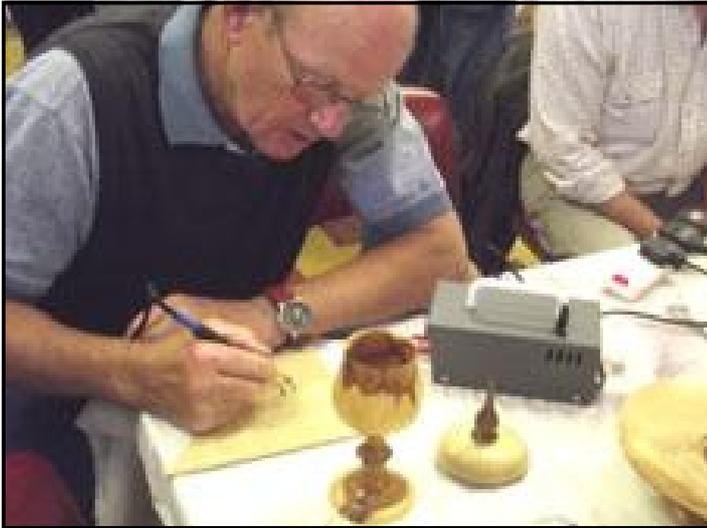


Roger Groom was busy trying to demonstrate how the bowl saver works. This is one of several tools available for loan from the club. It allows you to core out the centre of a bowl blank to make 2 bowls from a single blank.

Eric Harvey was demonstrating pyrography. Many members had a go at this during the evening, maybe it was to do with the chance to make smoke, either way, he was certainly kept busy for the evening.

Bron Simpson

Feedback From The Hands On Night



Ron Lansdell

I felt the evening was much better than previous hands on evenings, and the various stations made for a continuity of interest for the evening. Please pass on my thanks to all that took the trouble to bring in their equipment & took charge of the demonstrations.

Robert Saunders

I really enjoyed the evening last Friday as there were so many different skills being demonstrated and chances offered for hands on experience. It was also great to get an opportunity to exchange ideas and chat about woodturning generally with more members than usual due to the informal nature of the meeting. Many thanks to all who put so much effort into the preparation for the evening.

Bill Hudson

My view was that this was the most interactive evening I have seen of this type over the years. A very balanced spread of activities. One person that seemed to be very popular was Roger Rout who was generous enough to stand and sharpen tools for several members. R. Sorby should pay him commission. We need to be



careful over electrical loading, it is very easy to add extension to extension and overload circuits. Personally, I did not actually pick up a tool, but I gained much from watching and having interactive discussions.



Tony Gosling

I had an informative evening with Jon regarding the skew chisel which I thoroughly enjoyed, and I will be putting that into practice, so many thanks for that. Unfortunately I was not feeling 100% so I left early and I can't really comment on the whole of the evening, except to say it appeared to be well attended.

Table Critique By Roger Groom - June 7th 2013



Eric Harvey had "Fountain" Mk3 on show, made of Maple, Oak, Padauk, Cherry and other woods. Well finished (especially underneath where you cannot see it). Good piercing, I admire it in many ways, excellent execution.

A fine multi-centred bowl from Roger Rout. Very nice. All the cut

sections were ALMOST in the correct place. Good finish, no pimples, a nice smooth flow all the way through.



A shallow bowl from Robert Corbishley, made from an Acacia burr, one of the best woods to turn. A little too busy in the base, but well finished, an excellent effort.



A Sapele bowl from Jason Harvey. Again, Roger said "it's a bit too busy round the bottom", Jason replied "it's to hide the splits". A nice bowl with good curves.



Once again, a stunning piece from Andy Moore, a staved platter made of Ash and Oak. Made by gluing the pieces together, then re-cutting the joints on a scroll saw, then re-assembly. A super finish with Simoniz car wax.



Here we see Ron Lansdells first attempts at pen making using Zebrano, Teak, Walnut and an acrylic block. Very good finish, very nice, very good.



Final piece from Jason Harvey, a very nice gavel and block made of Teak. A nice bit of spindle turning, a very good effort.

Club Tools Available For Loan

Record DML305 Lathe	See Barry Mobbs
Woodcut Bowl Saver	}
Ashley Isles Unichaser	}
Robert Sorby Texturing Tool	} See Dave Wilcox
Axminster Reciprocal Carver	}
Record DX1000 Dust Extractor	}
Robert Sorby Eccentric Chuck	}
Record 6" grinder and Axminster sharpening system	} See Roger Groom

Waveny and District Woodturners



Waveny and District have asked for one of their demonstrations to be publicised through this newsletter. It is for an all day demonstration (10am to 4.30 pm) at Mutford Hall, Suffolk, on Saturday 28th September 2013 featuring Tom Kittle of Lapwing Woodturning. Two full projects will be completed, including a table top swivel mirror involving spindle and off centre face plate turning. Cost will be £15 which includes a light lunch. If you are interested, please contact:

David Ritchie, 01502 565865 or you can email him on d.ritchie785@btinternet.com

The Richard Findley Demonstration - June 22nd, 2013



Richard trained as a joiner, and discovered woodturning through that. It all started out as a hobby for him, and he has been doing it full time for just over 3 years. He is a professional turner, is on the Register of Professional Turners, and is a member of the Tudor Rose club.

His main interests are furniture and restoration. In his own words, "the art side doesn't really do much for me". Richard is proud of the fact that he has been selected to demonstrate at the Loughborough seminar this year, and a pet hate is poor form and bad shape in what could otherwise be very good work.

A Chair Leg:

A 45mm square length of Pine was mounted between centres ready to start. Richard explained that if you are going to do any amount of production with a piece you should make up a full size template to follow, showing all the coves, beads and fillets, along with all the principal dimensions. Two marks were made to define the pommel area at the top of the leg and a pair of parting cuts were made with the



long point of a skew. This is to protect the corners on the square section at the top of the leg. The remainder of the leg was quickly rounded off with a spindle roughing gouge, and he then marked all the principal cuts from the template. Parting cuts were made to block out the main features, all of which were then cut and refined with a combination of spindle gouges and the skew.

When you turn, try to do it in a relaxed way, and don't forget to breath.

The long taper is created with the spindle roughing gouge, lift the handle as you progress down the leg to create the taper, and use a ruler held against the blank to check that you have made a straight cut.



We were then introduced to a jig



made to carry a router (see the Woodturning Foundation Course by Keith Rowley). With a table mounted on the lathe bed, Richard was able to route a series of indexed flutes into the tapered section of the leg. A collar on the router cutter was used to control the depth of cut. When routing, make sure you use ear and eye protection. When the routing is complete, avoid all temptation to run the lathe and sand the tapered section, all you will succeed in doing is destroy the crisp features you have just created.

A Walking Stick:

When demonstrating, Richard uses a long bed lathe standing on trestles. As he is quite tall, it is at a good working height, and is ideal for making walking sticks. He also makes



use of a home made tool rest which is the full length of the cane and the lathe, supported by the banjo at one end and is G-cramped to the tailstock at the other.



The wood used is Steamed Beech as it is easy to work, is stable and straight grained and because it is a relatively inexpensive hard wood. As he sprays the canes black for his client the rather plain grain pattern of Beech is not

important. To date, he has made about 1400 canes for his client so he has had a good deal of practice. He begins by mounting the pre-drilled blank (approximately 850mm x 27mm x 27mm) on a home made screw chuck and a revolving centre, being careful not to apply too much pressure as this can cause the long thin blank to bend. There is a spacer between the wooden body of the chuck and the cane which acts as a sizing tool for the top of the cane.

Using a beading & parting tool he rounded the ends and fitted the steel ferrule at



the bottom of the cane. Then with a spindle roughing gouge he did the majority of the shaping. Being left handed he starts at the right end of the cane and works to the left, offering support to the cane with his right hand. At this stage he is mostly focusing on taking away the corners and not worrying about cutting to the final depth.

To achieve a good finish he changes grip, holding the handle of the tool with the right hand and cradling the tool and the timber with his left, he makes a smooth continuous movement from right to left, although it is fine to go in either direction. He continues to work in this manner until the cane looks and feels about the right shape, a smooth continuous taper from top to bottom. He uses a straight edge to check this and can make any adjustments necessary at this point.

The final "tool" that he uses is long sheets of abrasive starting at 80 grit and working through to 240 grit. Between working the grits with the lathe spinning he rubs the abrasive along the grain with the lathe stationary.



Finish with a fine Nyweb pad, followed by 3 coats of black waterbourne spray lacquer. If however he wanted to keep a natural wood finish he would use 2 or 3 coats of finishing oil and a coat of wax for a beautiful natural sheen.

A Walnut Whistle:

A short, sharp demonstration, just to fill in before lunch. With an inch square block of Walnut in the chuck (about 6" long), the end was drilled 6mm. Then, with a cone centre in the tail stock, the piece was rounded off with a spindle roughing gouge, and the free end was tapered a little to provide a mouthpiece. With a sharp saw, a wedge was cut about half an inch from the mouth piece, the front of which was leaning forward at an angle of 47.3 degrees (or thereabouts). Add a bit of decoration, sand, and part off just beyond the end of the pre-drilled hole.

Make a dowel to fit in the pre-drilled hole, split it across the grain, and glue it into the mouth piece after testing for the best position. Clean up the ends, and finish with food safe oils as required.

Lunch came and went, and thanks go to all those who organised and served it.





A Maple Bowl:

First project of the afternoon was a Maple bowl. With an 8" by 2" blank on a screw chuck, a heavy bowl gouge was used to true up the edge and bring it into balance. A draw cut was used with the flute pointing at about 10 o'clock to true up the open face. This done, a spigot was marked on the open face, and further draw cuts were used to cut an ogee shape on the bottom, leaving the spigot intact. This was followed by using a skew in scraper mode to clean up the foot area, not forgetting to mark the centre

ready for the final re-mounting, a little later on.

Make a finishing cut from spigot to rim using the more traditional push cut. Make sure you follow the shape of the blank with good bevel contact. If need be, drop the handle of the gouge and close the flute to do a sheer scrape for a fine finish. This cut will also give you good access to the foot area. The bottom was then power sanded with a soft pad, BUT don't forget to keep it moving.



Now with the piece re-mounted using the spigot in the chuck, the top face was trued up with a few draw cuts, and a small amount of drop was added to the edge, producing quite a thin edge to the rim. Mark the face for edge and centre margins and the bowl section to be cut out later. Decorate between the pair of margin sections with a Sorby texturing tool if you have one. A cheaper option is a set of beads cut with an Ashley Iles beading tool.

Sand the face, then apply Acrylic sanding sealer, followed by black ebonising spray. When dry, clean up the margins with a skew used in scraper mode, and with the long point, cut a groove in the outer most edge of the central bowl section. This will act as a safety trap to stop your bowl gouge skipping out across the nicely finished black area.

Cut the bowl section out, working from rim to centre, or centre to rim, whichever you feel most comfortable





with. For the best effect, finish with an undercut at the rim flowing into a smooth cut right into the bottom of the bowl section.

Use a combination of power and hand sanding through the grits to produce a good finish. Don't forget to sand the margins also, but take care not to cut into the black area.

Reverse chuck onto a face plate using router mat and a live centre to allow you to complete the foot.

Sand / oil / seal / lacquer / wax as you feel the need.

The final project of the day, a Walnut Apple:

With a 3" cube of Walnut held between fixed and live ring centres, the blank was rounded off with a spindle roughing gouge and a chucking point was cut at one end. With the blank now held in a chuck, a line was drawn on the circumference, about 5mm to the left of the centre line and long flowing cuts were made with a spindle gouge from the line to the centre of the base.

Drill into the centre ready for a screw chuck, and hollow the centre of the base. Sand the first half through the grits and



then seal and polish with a couple of coats of Melamine lacquer (thinned 70:30), followed by a coat of wax. Now mount the apple the other way round on a screw chuck, and finish cutting the shape. Cut into the head of the apple with your spindle gouge and open it out with a draw cut. Sand / seal / polish as above.

Use a short length of timber to turn a stalk and cut an acute angle on one end. When done, this will resemble a golf tee. Now drill the head at a jaunty angle, glue the stalk in the head and a clove in the bottom.

What a great day, thanks Richard

Your Reactions To The Richard Findley Demonstration

Trevor Blackman:

Thanks for your hospitality today, we all enjoyed the day and an excellent demonstration. We have an all day demonstration on the 16th November with Mick Hanbury, refreshments provided but a packed lunch will be needed. Our website is www.suffolkmidcoastalwoodturners.co.uk.

Dave Smith, Suffolk Mid-Coastal Woodturners:

Very good and very informative, he covered a lot of subjects. It wasn't too technical, and it was all achievable. It was well worth coming.

Subhash Davda:

It was a brilliant day. I learned a lot and enjoyed it, very good.

Keith Watts:

Very good, very enjoyable, well presented, first class, there isn't much more you can say.

Barry Mobbs:

It has been an excellent demonstration, one of the best I have seen at this club. Very informative, and lots of practical tips, all in all, very good.

Table Critique By Richard Findley



Roger Rout, Sycamore. Nicely finished, presumably turned on multiple centres. A good job, you have done well. A little bit of break-out, but a good finish overall.

Roger Rout, Indian Rosewood. Another good job and a good finish, well done.

Richard started off by saying that any critique is difficult as so much that is said is actually, down to personal taste, rather than taking account of the individuals feelings and thoughts, so the best way is to make sure that everybody is offended equally. Seems fair enough to me.





The Les Thorne piece, now completely finished by Barry Mobbs. A nice finish, well put together, good spindle work and detail. The bulbous bead at the base of the spindle could do with being either spherical, or lengthening into a teardrop to improve the lines.

Andrew Moore, a Sapele and Ash bowl. A really interesting bowl, good joints, a nice simple curve, well finished, well done.



Andrew Moore, a staved bowl made of laminated Ash and Oak. I am not fully into segmented pieces, but I fully appreciate the amount of work that has gone into a piece like this. This work is good, and this quality is not easy to achieve.

Roger Groom, a Bowl/platter made of Olive Ash. A nice simple shape with a good finish. A nice, simple step detail on the rim. When you make a platter, don't bother trying to mirror the inside to the outside. It is difficult to make it work well, and as per this piece, you still finish up with a good quality piece.



Forthcoming Events For Your 2013 Diary

Friday 5th July	Nick Arnull On Sharpening And The Use Of The Skew.
Friday 2nd August	John Gilbert - A Chris Stott Style Box.
Friday 6th September	Andy Coates - Program TBA.
Friday 4th October	The Ralph Jones Trophy - Competition Night.
Friday 1st November	Mick Hanbury - Program TBA.
Friday 6th December	Simon Hope - Program TBA.

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And Finally - We Have All Been There I Think

I have been many places in my time, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognises you there. I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work. I live close so it's only a short drive.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore. I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm. Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I get older. One of my favourite places to be is Suspense! It really gets the adrenaline flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get!

Sometimes I think I am in Vincible but life shows me I am not. People keep telling me I'm in Denial but I'm positive I've never been there before! I have been in Deep Do-Do many times. I find that the older we get, the easier it is to get there.

I haven't been in Continent yet, but my doctor says I'll be there soon