



YewTurn

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



Hi everyone, you may have noticed my lack of new items on the display table, well I have had to give in and actually do some decorating (Carol bought the wall paper in January!!!). Due to this, I have not even thought about making anything to be given as Christmas presents, but of course, this may come as a great relief to family and friends!! However, they do all say they are very pleased with my efforts. By the time you read this I hope to be back in the garage working on my next project.

At the last Meeting Jason Harvey, very kindly, brought me a very large piece of oak, big enough to enable me to have a go at making a very large platter, I am thinking about using a design of oak leaves and acorns, as an enhancement to this piece of oak. Thanks Jason, this will definitely give me a major challenge. It may not appear at the club until the New Year, as I have not made a definite decision about the design for this yet.

Last month's demonstration by Mick Hanbury really fired my enthusiasm to keep trying harder. The decoration using compressed air and translucent paints on a black background, I thought, was truly amazing and I cannot wait to try this on something. I would not be surprised if we see many of you having a go at this and I look forward to seeing what you come up with on the table to display this technique.

We have another amazing turner in December and I am sure that Simon Hope will be inspirational at this meeting, so hopefully you will be inspired to try something new and push the boundaries to start the new year;

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2014 is in sight: I can't believe we have reached the end of another year already.

Keep turning safely, Ivan.



The Mick Hanbury Demonstration, 1st November 2013



Mick is a skilful and artistic woodturner who has been turning for over 20 years. He has developed a unique style of decorative finish to his pieces and is well known for his beautiful finialed boxes, elegant spiral stemmed goblets, and delicately patterned platters. Mick was born in Cyprus which has had an influence on many aspects of his designs. He started his career as a cabinet maker where he made all manner of artefacts.

About 22 years ago he took to woodturning and since then, with the aid of some good mentors, has grown in stature to become one of the countries finest artistic turners. A memorable moment was seeing the pleasure and enthusiasm gained by one of his students (a 9 year old boy) who was both deaf and blind. A pet hate is being too serious.



The evening started with a 14" blank of Sycamore on a screw chuck with some tailstock support. Using a heavy bowl gouge, Mick took a few cuts, first to true up the edge, and then in sheer mode, he cleaned up the first inch of the face nearest to the headstock, followed by the open face. In a matter of seconds the piece was in balance and running true. Coarse sheer cutting followed to produce a smooth ogee shape on the bottom, leaving a re-chucking spigot in the centre.

You should continue until you have a smooth curve stretching from spigot to rim in a continuous line, finishing with a slight undercut at the rim. When you are happy with the ogee, make a final finishing cut in sheer scrape mode.



The spigot was then refined into a dovetail spigot. When you do this bit, make sure you cut it to an accurate size to match your chuck. If this is not accurate, it will affect the way the piece holds, and will be very easy to re-mount the piece off line.





With a mixture of beeswax and liquid paraffin (the proportions were not revealed), Mick applied a small quantity to the bottom of the piece and rubbed it well in, then did the sanding (dust free due to the wax). Spirit stains can go over the wax without problem, but the surface needs to be cleaned with acetone (nail varnish remover) before applying acrylic products.

With the piece now mounted in the chuck, heavy draw cuts were made from centre to rim in sheer mode, leaving a slightly domed rim section. To finish, work from the peak of the dome to the rim, and also, from the peak of the dome to the centre.

Sand through the grits, and when you cannot get the surface any better, apply masking tape (Frog Tape) and customising tape to the surface in your chosen pattern, then cover the surface with black acrylic paint. When the painting is done, get the tape off as soon as you can. When the paint is dry, take a small bowl gouge and cut out the centre, keeping a check on how the edge of the recess is interacting with the applied pattern. As you finish the recess, take measurements and make sure you don't cut through the bottom, and finish with a rotary sander.



A quick tip from Mick, "It's all about what you see. When you are happy with it, STOP".

Add design and texture with a dremel type tool and carbide cutters, and the careful application of a flame to remove the loose raised fibres. "The only way to learn is to get a set of cutters and experiment". When all is complete, sand the edge and coat the whole project in clear spray lacquer / cut back / spray again, until you are happy with the finish.

Second project of the evening was to be a decorated hollowform. With a DRY block of Sycamore held between centres, it was rounded off with a heavy bowl gouge.

When round, look at the overall quality of the wood and choose which ends need to be "top" and "bottom". Cut most of the waste away and add a chucking point at your chosen "bottom"



end". Re-mount in the chuck and refine the core shape until you are happy with it. With a re-sharpened gouge, make finishing cuts over the whole of the surface, followed by sheer scraping until you are happy with the entire line of the piece.



Coat with sanding sealer to help



reduce the dust problem while you sand through the grits. Clean off the top surface, drill out the core of the vessel, and recess the neck to allow a turned neck piece to be inserted. Then, if you choose to, hollow out until your heart is content. Paint with black acrylic, and when dry, coat with spray lacquer.



Using the Jo Sonjas range of iridescent colours the piece was decorated. This turned out to be the application of small blobs of paint, each of which was moved and spread with a can of compressed air. It all sounds so simple when Mick does it, and when you watch, it certainly seems that it is.



Turn a neck section to fit the recess you cut earlier. If necessary, cut several necks, and then choose which you like the best, sand and seal. With the neck glued in, the whole of the vessel can be coated in gloss lacquer, and deal with the base as you feel fit.

Mick's final comment, "If I have inspired you, great, if not"

A really good demonstration, thanks Mick.

Did You See That

Two old guys were sitting in the garden at the care home. As they sat and watched, old Mrs Bates "streaked" across the lawn in front of them. One said to the other, "Did you see that, it was old Mrs Bates". The other replied "Yes I saw, I don't know what she was wearing, but it needed ironing."

Michael King

The Table Display, 1st November 2013



First from Ron Lansdel, a fine display of pens, made of acrylics, Purpleheart and Yew.



Also from Ron, a very nice ring stand made of 'Albion Oak'.



Once more, we see Roger Rout's 'War of the Worlds'. An excellent piece, but with this type of work you must take care to clean up the glue joints.

Also from Roger Rout, a small onion pot made of Cherry.



A pair of platters, Sycamore and Ash, from Ivan Tatnell.

A Cherry table lamp from Maurice Hanchet.



A pair of bowls (Oak and Acacia) from Barry Mobbs.





Brian Elmar's chess set,
and a Zebrano vase.



Three pieces from Glyn Charles, a Cherry bowl, a small Olive Ash pot, and a Mallee Burr.



Darren Breeze displayed three pieces, a pierced Sycamore bowl, an ebonised Oak bowl, and a 'Nick Agar' copy in Sycamore.





Alan Drake produced a small Ash bowl and a Teak thermometer.



Last but by no means least, a stunning Ash vase of segmented and staved construction from Andrew Moore.

News From Down Under Alan Arnup, The Northern Woodturners

Our top turner, Ken Wraight, was very impressed with the strobe free light seen in the Woodart Products advertisement in your October newsletter. He contacted the company and ordered two of them. They have arrived safely and he has since fitted them with the approved power leads and is more than satisfied. Thank you. Ken has been busy with our Tuesday night group, the majority being relatively new to woodturning. The five people in the group have made a lidded box from Elm, complete with a finial (see the photo in the newsletter in which Gordon Watt, an experienced turner, submitted his for "Show and Tell"). The participants had to work to Ken's specifications which are always very, very precise.

The annual "Working With Wood Show" has just been held in Melbourne again. As a result of fairly heavy rental costs there were less exhibitors than usual but nevertheless there was plenty to see. One of my purchases was a new M2 mandrel for my pens and a mandrel saver which I am very happy with. Finally, here are a few "one liners" for your members to enjoy:

Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!

A cartoonist was found dead yesterday. Details are sketchy.

I used to have a bank account - but then I lost interest.

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, then it dawned on me.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

Alan Arnup, Northern Woodturners.

As you will have seen recently, I am now in receipt of newsletters from The Northern Woodturners, and unless I hear from you to the contrary, I will send them out to the same people who are on the Norwich club distribution list for this newsletter. If you are external

to our club and would like to receive the extra newsletter from Auz, please let me know. I am sure that many of you will find them interesting, especially with regard to the variety of woods we see used. I would also like to say that if anybody from the Northern Club happens to be in the UK., please feel free to pay a call on us, you will always be welcome. Likewise, if and when we decide to put on an all day Saturday demonstration in a slightly warmer place, we will let you know how much space we need to park the coach.

Stop Press !!!!!!!!!!!!!

Tuesday morning, 26th November 2013 started the way most days do, except that this day, first I had to get out of bed to accept a delivery of wood from Stiles & Bates, then, just as we were going out for a couple of hours, the regular postman rang the door bell with a small package that would not go through the letter box. Nothing odd about that, except I wasn't expecting anything else and the exterior of the packet had a customs declaration on it stating the contents were "Wooden Pen Blanks". After reading the rest of the envelope, it dawned on me that I (we) had been sent a gift of 8 pen blanks from the Northern Woodturners in Australia, see photo. These were Burdekin Plum, Camphor Laurel, Coachwood, Cooktown Ironwood, Osage Orange, 2 x Sheoak, and Southern Mahogany. My first thought was to put them on the raffle table on December 6th, but then there are a lot of members who are not pen makers. My second thought was to hand them out to ANY member who wants to make a pen with a piece of Aussie wood (first come first served). When all the 8 pens are done, we can have a group photo of the 'turners' and 'turnings'.



Alan - What a great idea, and in response, I have sent you a similar gift. Due to the date (last post to Auz is 5th December, next club night is 6th December) this has been arranged without the knowledge of the club, I hope they all think it is a good idea.

Today (27/11/2013) I raided the darkest corners of the workshop, and found a range of English timbers for you to enjoy. Likewise, if you can get a group photo of the turners and turnings, I will put them in the mag for all to enjoy. The wood I have sent you is Apple, Beech, Elm, Laburnum, Hornbeam, Burr and plain Maple, Oak (from Albion, see www.wherryalbion.com) Plum, Walnut, and 2 x Yew. Hope you like them, a Merry Christmas, and a

Happy New Year to all.

Jon Simpson

Bits And Pieces From The Events Secretary



The Tudor Rose club at Daventry have sent us an invitation to attend the WoodWorks 2014 show which takes place over the weekend of Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th May next year.

I know it seems a long way, but this is a show with a difference. Most shows, be they at Harrogate, or Ally Pally, or anywhere else are trade shows supported by a few turners. This show first started in 2010 when the local "Woodex" show came to an end. The ethos of WoodWorks has always been "a free to enter",

"club based show", supported by traders and professionals. This is of course completely the opposite of the traditional trade show where you pay quite a high price at the door just to get in, and traders are charged a kings ransom to appear. At an event of that type you may well have a few professionals and clubs appearing, but only in a supporting role. I have to say, you can most definitely tell the difference.



The normal format of the weekend is a significant variety of club displays, continuous turning displays for the public, and a bit of competition work on both days. This normally takes the form of best club display, make a bowl in an hour, make a goblet, etc.

Jon and I are happy to attend for the weekend on behalf of the Norwich club, BUT, we cannot do it on our own, we would need support from several other members, and of

course, we would need to put together a significant display of our members' work.

So, is anybody interested in attending and supporting the event. We would need a few people who are willing to turn, and talk to the public. Also, we would need to transport a complete set of turning equipment, and a complete table display.



Jon and I would go over for a long weekend with the cats and the caravan. We could take display material and a stand, but we would not be able to carry much in the way of equipment. Please let me know your thoughts as soon as possible.

A bit of news now on our forthcoming events. First, Mark Baker is coming on June 6th, so that should be a good one to look out for.

Second, we have managed to book Rolly Munro (thanks to the efforts put in by Grumpy) to do a demonstration for us at the club on SATURDAY August 2nd, 2014.



Rolly Munro is a sculptural turner from New Zealand. Take a look at examples of his work at www.rollymunro.co.nz, and also check out his range of hollowing tools which are pivotal in the creation of the hollow forms. He frequently travels to demonstrate at clubs in various parts of the world, and also runs workshops from his home at the base of the North Island's west coast, an hour's drive north of Wellington, surrounded by some of the most beautiful beaches and coastline in New Zealand. His home is just a short drive from Waikawa Beach where he enjoys a great climate and very luscious green surroundings.

Rolly discovered the lathe as a sculptural tool in the 1970's making design components for an art school design project. Later browsing through a book he saw some examples of Bob Stockdale's natural edged bowls and thought he might be able to make a little money making turnings like that to help him through art school. Since the age of nineteen, Rolly has loved the sensual pleasure of wood peeling from a turned form, now he is in his fifties he still experiences the same gratification from the sound, feel and aroma as shavings fly.



His art works are a melding of woodturning, carving and surface patterning, aiming to seamlessly blend these elements. It is an exciting journey which Rolly sometimes struggles to make time for now that the demands of hollowing tool production are becoming insistent.

I need to know what you would like to do the previous evening, on August 1st (our normal club night). The options are simple, it will be either a professional turner, or a club turner, or a 'Hands On' night. Please give this some thought, and I will ask for a show of hands on Friday 6th December to see what you think.

Bron Simpson

Forthcoming Events For Your 2013 / 2014 Diary

Friday 6th December 2013	Simon Hope - Program TBA.
Friday 3rd January	Grumpy Makes a Rattle (or two).
Friday 7th February	Barry Mobbs - Program TBA.
Friday 7th March	Roger Foden - Program TBA.
Friday 4th April	2014 AGM.
Friday 6th June	Mark Baker (GMC).
Saturday 2nd August	Rolly Munro - An All Day Demonstration.
Friday 3rd October	The Ralph Jones Trophy - Competition Night.
Friday 7th November	Andy Coates - Program TBA.

May/Jul/Aug/Sep/Dec to be arranged

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And Finally - Not Sure Who Can Solve This Problem

A female journalist heard about a very old Jewish man who had been going to the Wailing Wall to pray, twice a day, every day, for a long, long time.

Wanting to check the story out, she went to the Wailing Wall and there he was, walking slowly up to the holy site. She watched him pray and after about 45 minutes, when he turned to leave, using a cane and moving very slowly, she approached him for an interview.

"Pardon me, sir, I'm Rebecca Smith from CNN. What is your name?" "Morris Fishbien", he replied. "Sir, how long have you been coming to the Wailing Wall and praying?" "For over 60 years." "60 years! That's amazing! What do you pray for?"

"I pray for peace between the Christians, Jews and Muslims."

"I pray for all the wars and the hatred to stop."

"I pray for all our children to grow up safely as responsible adults,
and to love their fellow man."

"So, how do you feel after doing this for over 60 years?"

"Like I've Been Talking To A Brick Wall!"