



Gary prances  
along at his usual pace



**The Gary Rance's demonstration** last month positively flew along with Gary covering all the basic elements, including how to sharpen your tools. After starting with a novel salt shaker he then went on to an ear-ring stand followed by a box with a Corian inlaid lid.

Hopefully members took notes when it came to the spinning top (which flipped upside down whilst in motion) as Maggie has her eye on that for a hands-on session, so start practicing.

Did I hear correctly?.....did Gary say that he uses the toe of the skew to turn his beads? His grandson Les, if you recall, definitely used the heel when he was with us a month or two ago. If so, it just goes to show that there is more than one way to fleece a pussy.

The Oracle has spoken .....Mick Briggs wishes it to be known—

### Christmas Competition

Novices - Any item with a 'natural edge'

Intermediate - Any item with colour and/or texture

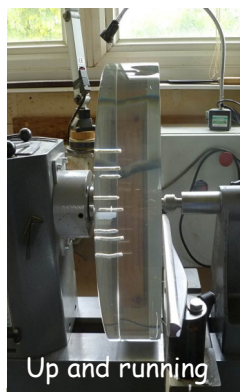
Advanced - A pair of hand-turned stair spindles (not necessarily full size)

Frank Elworthy Cup - Specifically for Spindle-turned items

Charles Newson Cup - Item most prized by partners



# Members' Work



Up and running

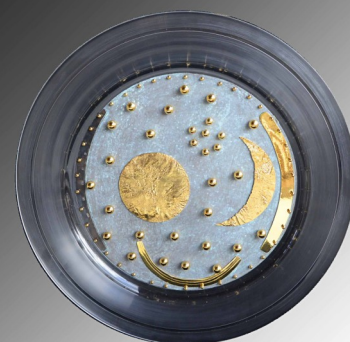
Some of you may recall the cursing and swearing that accompanied a recent commission I received from a silversmith of some renown. I was asked to produce an 18" diameter block of acrylic that would serve as a background to a stylized copy of The Nebra Sky Disc. This is an artefact, dated to circa 1600bc, that is considered to be the earliest representation of the cosmos discovered to date. The back was to be polished 'ogee' and the front to have clear 'Saturn rings' in a matt finish.

I was recently invited to view the finished article in all its splendour. It consists of a solid silver disc, with gold embellishments and will eventually end up in a permanent exhibition.

If you are asked to something similar consider how best to proceed (the acrylic cost hundreds!!!) . The buffing and finishing (mainly the back) was not too difficult but the turning I found to be most arduous. Switching between scrapers and gouges seemed to be favourite but you have to be very careful of the build-up of heat as it 'tears' and 'bubbles' the material if you do not take great care (see left) . If you ever have a go, and succeed, then please let me know your methods for future reference.



Messy stuff



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Date of next Meeting:  
Sunday 19th October  
Hands-on  
Details at September Meeting