



April meeting demo by Simon Hope proved a great success.

Judging by members comments after the meeting last month, I think everyone found Simon Hope's demonstration most informative and enjoyable. Simon spoke very naturally and was easy to follow.

His programme consisted of five different projects, all of them covering basic techniques but taken a stage further, making them of interest to us all.

As he proceeded, Simon covered safety aspects and also some of his own techniques which varied slightly from the textbook approach.

Simon has his own company selling woodturning items so naturally used some of his own range of tools, notably the carbide cutters which he used for hollowing. They looked very efficient.



Simon turning an off centre candlestick

The first project was a box. The outer profile of the sycamore blank was shaped and then Simon used a beading tool to produce a series of beads down to the foot of the box.

The lid was set into the box as part of the design and had a pewter ring and blackwood finial.

Simon went through the processes of turning a mould for the pewter and melting, pouring and finally turning the pewter ring.

He then treated it with a patinating product before texturing it to reveal the silver beneath.



Pewter in mould ready for initial turning.

Not long after I joined the club, Maggie Wright brought in a pair of lidded boxes turned in Thuya wood with decorative pewter knobs which she had turned.

I thought they were beautiful and decided that I would one day, like to attempt some pewter work. I was therefore particularly interested in this aspect of Simon's demonstration.



One of Maggie Wright's boxes with pewter knobs

After finishing the box, Simon moved on to a novelty item, a bell shaped tape measure holder. This consisted of three different parts, two of which comprised the bell and were threaded.

Once again this was of particular interest to me as just that morning I had acquired a pair of thread chasers from Allan Beecham.

The bell was made from yew and by using superglue on the threads Simon was able to cut them successfully.

Handouts were available for this design and also a snowman version.

For his next item, Simon turned an off centre candlestick.

I felt this was a good way for inexperienced members to start turning off centre, as being mounted on opposite diagonals the piece was still balanced.

Following on from this we were shown how to turn a sycamore platter featuring an inserted ring of walnut. A point to remember when doing this sort of work is to match up the grain orientation to minimise gaps opening up if the timber moves

Finally Simon demonstrated with his carbide tools a fast hollowing technique turning a sycamore pot which he then textured and coloured with black boot polish. After allowing it to dry he buffed it up then cut back the high parts producing a fish scale effect.

It was finished using an aerosol system by Preval, with propellant canisters which attach to glass bottles containing your desired finish.



Simon Hope's demonstration pieces

Thank you

Thanks are due to the television team and particularly Lynn Chambers, Brian Rowson and Archie Gain for manning the cameras.

Members' Work



Skittle in magnolia wood by Archie Gain



Fretwork in apple by Bob Hollands

The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain International Seminar 7-9th August

This event is open to members of the AWGB with various options for accommodation and meals. There will be international demonstrators, trade stands and a gallery of turned work.

If you are not a member you can still visit and view the work. www.awgb.co.uk

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For Sale

Axminster CCL freestanding lathe 2 morse taper including chuck.

Contact Kevin Head Phone 01424 753959
Email kevinhead44@btinternet.com

A Multico Super Shop unit, direct off mains, which I have only ever used as a lathe although I am sure that the parts for it's other functions are somewhere in the depths of my garage.

A Multico 12" planer, Model NS.16.3 complete with a Transwave Converter.

A Multico 12" thicknesser, Model TH/1. Direct off mains.

A DeWalt radial arm saw, Model 1370 complete with a Transwave Converter.

All of the equipment is complete with various spare parts.

Contact Peter Dickinson Phone 01435812887
Email peterrossmead@gmail.com

Peter is not looking for a lot of money, more a good home for this machinery.

Competition reminder for July 19th

Novice Mortar and pestle
Intermediate A pair of rice bowls
Advanced A string activated toy

Next month's meeting

14th June

Hands on so bring your tools