



Interesting Demonstration by John Plater

For the October meeting we welcomed demonstrator John Plater, who admitted at the end of the meeting, that it was his first full day demo. Well, we all enjoyed it.

John took early retirement from teaching design to concentrate on woodturning and he aims to create enough income to provide for the extras in life such as holidays.

John enjoys turning natural edge forms and often uses wood that others discard due to inherent defects in the timber.

After his introduction, John talked about some of the pieces he had brought in to show us, particularly the piece pictured on the right. He called this a 'A Woodturner's Whimsy'. The piece started as an idea, then a trial and this was the finished piece. It was turned from a piece of palo santo, mounted on seven different axes.



Above. John Plater's Woodturner's Whimsy

The practical demonstration began with a piece of unseasoned Judas tree which John turned with a natural edge. During the turning, a crack in the chucking spigot allowed the piece to come away so John showed us how to remount it. This was a most useful exercise for the novices amongst us. After turning, the piece was left unfinished and put aside for a few weeks, to allow for any movement before finishing.

John's second piece was a length of bay tree which he turned in a similar way, again leaving it to move before finishing.

As he worked on this piece, a wonderful smell of bay filled the hall.

Following this, John discussed his finishing methods covering ppe. sanding and finishing with Osmo polyx oil. This ended the morning session



John's natural edge bay bowl. Far left, on the day and left, finished a couple of weeks later. Notice the change in shape.

Right John turning his burr elm bowl.

After lunch, John turned a larger piece of burr elm which he mounted initially with a pin chuck.

John had already prepared the blank using a router guided by a strip of wood fixed to the blank to pivot round the centre, a new technique for some of us.

He had then drilled the hole for the pinchuck using a forstner bit.



After turning the outside of the bowl, John rechucked it to turn the inside, then reversed it for finishing. He discussed holding techniques for this last stage using materials such as foam padding and router matting.



Left, John's burr elm bowl showing inside and out.

Right, The bay branchwood piece finished by John at home.



John ended the demo by turning a piece of green bay which had several branch stubs at the top, once again, lovely scent. This was finished later at home.

Thanks to Lynn and Brian and team for managing the audio visual system and to everyone who helped set up and clear away.

Winter competition

Only a few weeks to go so now so if you have not finished your entries it is time to get busy. Here is a reminder.

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| Novices | A three legged stool |
| Intermediate | The golden ratio |
| Advanced | Cut to the chase |
| Frank Elworthy Cup | Emphasis on spindle turning innovation and design |
| Charlie Newson Cup | Partners' choice. |



Oak burr bowl inside and out by Sandra Day

Members' Work



Christmas decoration by Gaya Taylor.



Little bowl by new Member, Chris Spratt.



Bowl with brass inlay by Chips Bishop.



Segmented work with pewter insert by Brian Rowson.

For Sale

Large selection of pen blanks and other turning blanks.
About 20 gouges and a woodcut bowlsaver.
Prices negotiable. Open to offers.

Contact Sydney Emmerson 01424 775415

Reminder for this month's meeting.

Hands on techniques.

Using a bandsaw, introduction to pyrography, sharpening, finishing and thread chasing

December Meeting

Christmas competition and Social.

December 13th 10am .

Please bring a plate of food for the buffet lunch.

Hon President	Allan Beecham
Chairman	Maggie Wright
Vice Chairman and	
Competition Secretary	Peter Castle
Secretary	Anne Smith
Treasurer	John Turner
Events organiser	Allan Beecham
Librarian	David Spice
Newsletter editor	Sandra Day
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