



Pick and Mix

The June meeting began as usual with the notices including a reminder about the summer competition and social. Hopefully all members will support the event as the general standard of turning even amongst the novices is very competitive. It is always an enjoyable event and is usually blessed with fine weather.

The meeting itself was split between several subjects covering common woodturning related techniques.

We began with Fred Mitchell giving a demonstration of his Ron Brown's Best hollowing laser guide. Fred mounted a blank between centres and prepared it for the chuck, reversed it and checked it was running true. He then began hollowing in the conventional manner presenting his tool at 10 o'clock position and using a pull cut initially. By keeping the tool at the same angle he then used a pull and push technique. As the hollow deepens it becomes more difficult to see and to judge wall thickness and this is where the laser guide comes in. Fred explained how to set it up. It can be used with most standard hollowing tools, simply fitting over the ferrule. The guide can be adjusted to indicate wall thickness from 1/16" up to 1". Having set it up with his Hope hollowing tool, Fred showed the laser dot on the work and how it followed the profile the tool was cutting. As the desired wall thickness is reached, the red dot of the laser moves to the edge of the work and becomes a line. As the line follows the smooth outer profile, the inner profile should be completely parallel avoiding those annoying ridges we might otherwise produce.

Fred gave some advice on using the tool including saving the battery by only turning the laser on when nearing the desired wall thickness and of course, being careful where the laser might be pointing when setting up. There is an extension bar available for deeper hollowing. As the tool comes from America and incurs import charges etc. it is quite an outlay but if like Fred, you are going to be selling your work or doing a lot of hollowing then it is well worth the expense. As our youngest member, Fred gave a very competent presentation and is to be congratulated.

The next topic was sharpening using the Robert Sorby Pro Edge System presented by Greg Collet. Greg covered setting the machine up for different tools and profiles with the relevant jigs. There was an opportunity to try it out later on.

Maggie Wright then gave a summary of finishing work from sanding to sealing and applying a final finish. This was followed by a presentation on pyrography by Sandra Day which included the different units available, ancillary equipment and various techniques. There were also examples of pyrography work for scrutiny after which we broke for the raffle and lunch.

Thank you Robert and Margaret Hollands for running the raffle so efficiently.



Fred Mitchell hollowing with the laser guide attachment. Inset top left shows the laser beam on the work nearing the required depth.

After lunch members regrouped for a more in depth look at finishing by Maggie. She discussed the importance of sanding and working through the grits in sequence. Maggie then talked about sealing work and finally covered the various protective finishes including lacquers and waxes. She had an impressive display of work laid out, showing examples of different finishes for comparison. There was then a little time for members to follow up on any of the topics covered during the day. Thank you to all those involved who brought in their equipment and samples etc. Thank you to Brian Rowson and team for managing the audio visual equipment and of course to everyone who helped to set up in the morning and clean up at the end of the day.

Members' Work



Above Urn by Robert Hollands
Above right Box by Jim Moger



Footed bowl by Terry Johnson



Two hollow forms by Fred Mitchell



Pot pourri container
by Tim Cornwall

Banksia nut toadstool
by Brian Blanks



Dates for your diary

Friday August 10th-Saturday August 11th 10.00-4.00

Andrew Hall The Hat Man will be demonstrating at Axminster Power tools Sittingbourne branch.

Saturday September 15th 10.00-4.00

Richard Findley will be demonstrating at Axminster Power tools Sittingbourne branch.

Reminders

Six monthly subscriptions are due in July

July Meeting

July 15th 10.00am

Competition and Barbecue

Usual format - Please bring your entries and food to accompany the BBQ
Partners and friends welcome.

Chairman	Maggie Wright
Vice Chairman and Competition Secretary	Peter Castle
Secretary	Anne Smith
Treasurer	John Turner
Events organiser	Greg Collett
Librarian	David Spice
Newsletter editor	Sandra Day
A-V co-ordinator	Brian Rowson

www.wealdenwoodturners.org.uk

For Sale

Charnwood Lathe - variable speed and rotating headstock. Cost new £1700 only used for a few months. Including 3 chucks and ancillary tooling £600
Contact Peter French 01424420965

August Meeting.

August 19th 10.00am

Hands on Involved and Eccentric Turning with
Peter Castle.

Please bring your tools etc.