



Jigs and Things



Last month the club welcomed Paul Howard to demonstrate to a well attended audience. Paul has a background in electric and mechanical engineering and on retiring has been able to apply his skills in those fields to his wood turning methods. In particular he has developed a fluting jig and a sphere turning jig along with accessories such as the indexing plate, which are now available to purchase.

Paul's demonstration concentrated on projects which made use of these jigs and so was a little different from other demos and offered a good insight into possible decorative techniques using a little lateral thinking.

In the morning Paul turned one of his popular owls. He began with a square blank with spigots of waste wood hot glued to each end and mounted it between centres. After roughing to a cylinder it was marked to aid turning a sphere and partially turned away at the sides. Paul then set up his sphere cutting jig and proceeded to finish the shape. You can do this with your gouges. Having completed the sphere, Paul marked the position of the eyes and mounted the work in a doughnut chuck of his own design. He drilled the hole for the purchased teddy bear eye and then set up the fluting jig, essentially a router carrier, to cut the flutes round the inner eye. This could be done in other ways including carving or texturing. The process was repeated with the other eye then the work removed from the lathe. Paul sanded the eye areas using a bristle brush mounted in the lathe. The next step was to make the beak. Although not turned, Paul still used the lathe as he attached a disc sander to the drive and a sanding table on the lathe bed. Paul then showed us how, using a vacuum chuck to hold the wood, he turns hats of different designs for some of the owls .

To finish, Paul turned a base for the owls' head to sit on and this completed the morning session. If you are interested in having a go at this project, full instructions along with coloured photos are in the current issue of Woodturning magazine issue 316.

In the afternoon Paul showed us how to turn an offset box. He used a piece of oak which he roughed to a cylinder, turned a chucking spigot on each end and then parted in two for the base and lid. After mounting in the chuck, the box sections were turned and hollowed following the usual method. Paul then mounted his offset jig in the chuck, mounted the box base and turned the stem with some decoration. He repeated this with the lid turning a finial. The base was then rechecked to finish the foot.

Plans and instructions for the owls and Paul's offset box and the jigs/ chucks are available directly from Paul, email paulhotm@hotmail.co.uk
Website www.paulhowardwoodturning.co.uk

Picture right, Paul Howard using the router and fluting jig to carve the owl eyes. Note also the indexing plate and doughnut chuck.

Inset. Showing the rear of the doughnut chuck held in the lathe chuck using a dovetail recess in the plywood backplate.



During lunch, members had time to admire the display of work on the monthly competition table.

There was a good and varied selection of pieces and the contest is going to be pretty close this year. Remember, there is a handicap system in place to allow for inexperience, so keep those entries coming in whatever your level of expertise.

A Selection of Members' Work



Above, wallclock by Robert Hollands.
Below, segmented box by Paul Filsell



Box turned on an ornamental lathe by Maggie Wright.



Above, pyrographed platter by Sandra Day.
Right, Lamp turned by Brian Blanks



Leaf, turned and carved by Jim Moger.



This Month's Meeting

March 18th 10.00am

Hands On

Spinning tops including the Challenge

Please bring your tools and timber, ideally even growth close grained hardwood for spindle work.



Hollow form with natural defects by John Turner

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

Next Month's Meeting

April 15th 10.00am

Chris Grace Demonstrating

You may have seen Chris's articles in Woodturning magazine. As well as writing, Chris demonstrates, teaches and sells his work. He also devises lots of jigs and accessories.