



Demonstration by Chris Grace

For our April meeting we welcomed Chris Grace from the South Downs Woodturners to demonstrate for the day. Chris's wife Jean, accompanied him and also displayed some of her woodcarvings. Chris is on the register of professional turners and gives tuition as well as demonstrations. He is a great improviser and throughout his demonstrations he used his own homemade jigs and aids. Chris tries to turn his projects as safely as possible but also as easily as possible.

His first project was a winged bowl with a lid and foot. These pieces were cut from one log which was split in half. The lid also had a finial. The half log was about twice as long as wide. Chris marked the centre on the flat side then showed us how to project this onto the curved side. He then drilled a hole which doubled up to take the steb centre and also the spigot of the foot. Chris did the same for the lid to save setting up the drill again. The recess would accept the finial this time.

Chris mounted the blank initially by pressing it against a cork faced faceplate using the stebcentre in the tailstock to keep it in place. By fitting this in the drilled recess he was able to line it up accurately with no squeaking. He then turned the chucking spigot. As this was on the rounded log it had to be flattened to fit in the chuck jaws. The blank was then reversed into the chuck. As the winged part will be spinning beyond the turned part, Chris positions the tool rest beyond the ends but stressed the importance of keeping fingers away from it. The bowl was then hollowed checking shape and depth, then the shape refined with a scraper. The diameter and depth of the bowl section should be noted down at this stage and the work reversed back onto the cork faceplate. The leading corners of the wings were secured with some little wooden blocks to prevent breakout in the next step and the steb centre brought up for support. Starting very cautiously using a pull cut, Chris started blending the round section of bowl into the flat winged part which he wanted to reduce to a thickness of about 3mm. Having noted the inner dimensions of the bowl Chris was able to finish the outside to the right proportions. By keeping the toolrest parallel to the faceplate and using a consistent motion the wing should remain an even thickness. The work was then sanded. The next stage was to turn the lid following the same procedures as for the base but without wings, sizing the lid to fit the bowl.

The foot was also turned in the same way but leaving a spigot rather than drilling a recess. This will fit into the recess on the bowl. Chris then turned a finial between centres using spindle turning methods and sizing a spigot to fit the recess on the lid. After finishing, the pieces were ready to assemble.



Above. A winged bowl and an Archimedes goblet similar to Chris' demonstration projects.

Below. Chris checking the chucking spigot. Note the blank held against the cork faceplate. Chris has two lights. One with a turned shade and the second, a very inexpensive sewing light with magnetic base, available on Ebay.



Chris's project for the afternoon was a goblet with a twisted stem. The stem was actually an old auger bit and looked very effective. He used several tools which he favours including a homemade centre finder, quick release callipers, a bullet drill bit which is a cross between a spur and lip bit and a round nose bit. Earlier he used an engineer's depth gauge and an engineers square which also had a centre finder on it. Accessories like these can often be picked up secondhand.

The base and cup sections of the goblet need to be stable enough to support the metal stem. Chris turned a spigot in the cherry blank and mounted it in the chuck. It was then roughed down and a hole drilled for the metal stem in the base. It was then shaped and parted off and the remaining section used for the cup. This was drilled for the stem then the outside shaped and cleaned up ready for texturing and applying a black and gilt cream finish. Chris used the small Crown texturing tool and the Henry Taylor decorating elf and then defined the textured area with small v grooves using a skew chisel. The piece was then reversed to hollow the inside. Finally it was reversed again onto a cup chuck in order to tidy the area around the base of the hollowed section. Then it was ready to assemble. Many thanks to Chris for an informative demonstration.

If you would like to try texturing, the club has a texturing tool available for loan.

General data protection regulation

In order to comply with the new rules on GDPR coming into force on May 25th, all members are required to fill out a new membership form. If you did not do so at the last meeting, please get in touch with secretary, Anne Smith, for the relevant form and information.

Members' Work



Boxes, left to right, by Paul Filsell, Jim Moger and Brian Blanks.

Reminder for Summer Competition, July 15th.

- Novices A lidded box.
- Intermediates A natural edge bowl.
- Advanced A puzzle.
- Founder's Cup A piece showing innovation.

Reminder for May Meeting

May 20th. 10.00am

Fungi fun with Peter Hawes.

Please bring tools and branch wood.

There will also be a few turning and ancillary tools for sale.



Colourful platter by Tim Cornwall

Wanted

A copy of Woodturning magazine April 2015 issue 278 to purchase or borrow.
Contact Sandra s.a.day@theforstell.plus.com

June Meeting

June 10th 10.00am

The following subjects will be covered:
deep hollowing, tool surgery, sharpening, finishing and pyrography.
Please bring any problems you have, tools and pyrography units etc. for advice.

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

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