

Spoiling Wood or Creating with Colour

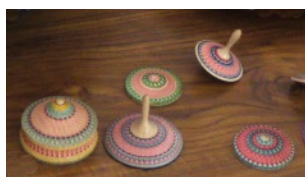
In October we welcomed Mick Hanbury, professional turner and wood artist, to our meeting. Mick introduced himself as a spoiler of wood meaning he covers his turned work with colour and texture which was the essence of his demonstration. Of course he would not do this with a piece of wood with beautiful grain and natural colour. A more bland timber would be selected, ideally sycamore which is what he used on this occasion. He turned the base of a platter in the conventional way with a border around the outer edge and around the foot and then sanded the piece. Mick wet sanded throughout his demonstration using a paste made of 80% liquid paraffin and 20% beeswax. To make this yourself, warm the ingredients just enough to blend together and store in an airtight container. He then introduced a new texturing tool made by Simon Hope which bruises the pattern into the work. The texturing tools we are more familiar with, cut the design. The pattern produced varies according to the presentation of the tool. The platter was then reversed and the front rims turned with narrow borders to match the back. Mick wet sanded again and textured the borders. He then burnished the piece with kitchen paper to remove any excess oil prior to painting. The next step was more extreme texturing using an arbortech with chainsaw attachment. Mick then used a wire brush on a drill to blend in the arbortech work whilst keeping clear of the borders. He then brushed off the dust and scorched the work with a small gas torch. Take care if you try this as fine airborne dust can be very flammable! Next came the paint application, several coats of black spray paint until the right depth of colour was achieved. To save time Mick had devised a holder for a small hairdryer to aid the drying process between coats. He then applied several coats of gloss lacquer. Once dry, he used a sponge to apply acrylic metallic paint, drying and lacquering between each colour. The piece was then finished with a groove framing the design. Finally the centre was turned out, wet sanded and finished with Yorkshire grit.



Mick Hanbury using the texturing tool. Inset showing design created. Below. Wooden hairdryer holder fitted over tool post



Above, Platter detail.
Below, Spinning tops.



Mick continued by turning a wine glass to colour. He first applied a base coat of black gesso which he lacquered. He then brushed on iridescent colours and covered these with cling film, crinkling it up and then carefully removing it. As the paint dried, the colours became apparent. It was then lacquered. Iridescent paints can be thinned with flow release medium which does not dilute the strength of colour. As the paints are all acrylic, equipment can be cleaned in warm water before it dries.

For his third colouring Mick turned a spinning top and a stand for it. These were both textured with the new tool and then coloured with superior felt pens. The brush tip is held over the textured area in a trailing mode and only colours the raised areas leaving a pleasing pattern. Mick then finished them with carnauba wax.

Mick's demonstration gave members plenty of ideas for enhancing bland wood. Some of the texturing could be done with just a carving gouge and artistic ability is not required for the random application of colour so anyone can have a go and achieve success. Thank you Mick.



Iridescent goblet.

Members' Work



Above. Threaded box by Paul Filsell. Well done Paul for having a go at thread chasing after last month's hands on.

Below. Sandra Day also tried thread chasing, producing a pyrographed egg with threaded resin inserts.



Above. Goblet by Peter Hawes. The bowl of this goblet was turned from a coconut shell!



Box by Greg Collett



Box by Marion Brunt



Right. A platter by Robert Hollands turned from a beautiful example of yew.

Winter Competition Reminder

Dates for your diary

December 14th 10.00 - 3.00

Nikos Siragas will be demonstrating at Axminster Sittingbourne branch.

December 15th 10.00 am.

Nikos will be demonstrating at The Garden of England Woodturners Club, venue Dunkirk Village Hall near Faversham.

Nikos is a renowned turner specialising in turned and carved work with a gallery and workshop in Crete.

Novice class

Intermediate

Advanced

Frank Elworthy Cup

Charlie Newson Cup

Richard Hasleden Cup

A working yoyo or diabalo

A piece with a twist

A decorated bowl (not a platter)

Spindle turning

Partners' Choice

Culmination of Monthly entries

Reminder for this Month's Meeting

November 18th 10.00 - 4.00

Demonstration by **Andy Coates**

December Meeting

December 9th 10.00 am

Winter Social and Competition.

Always an enjoyable event, please bring your partners/friends and a plate of food to accompany speciality hot dogs.

There will be the usual entertainments and a talk by a member of the True Crime Museum.

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