



Demonstration by Gregory Moreton

In March the club welcomed Gregory Moreton to demonstrate for the day. Greg covered several projects but began with an open ended form. He normally uses seasoned wood but for the demo had a piece of wet laburnum. The first stage was to drill right through the middle. To do so, Greg covered some less familiar techniques. He used an auger bit of about 25mm in preference to a forstner or saw tooth bit as these are inclined to wander off line when drilling so deep. The bit was mounted in a jacobs chuck in the headstock. Greg lined up the wood between the bit and the tailstock centre a little off parallel. He felt this gave a more pleasing shape than if the ends lined up. The tailstock centre was a hollow one so that when the bit broke through the point would not damage it. Supporting the wood with a boa constrictor, Greg ran the lathe at a slow speed and wound the workpiece onto the drill bit withdrawing it at intervals to clear the swarf.

For the next stage, Greg used a form of jam chuck which was a spindle the same size as the drilled hole with a chucking tenon on the end mounted in the chuck. Unfortunately Greg's jigs did not fit the club chuck but with much improvisation he was able to demonstrate the processes. Having mounted the work, Greg faced up the tailstock end then shaped the middle to get a good curve, remembering that there is a 25mm hole through the middle. He then hollowed in from the end but left a central portion to make a chucking spigot for reversing the piece. Greg aimed for a 2mm wall thickness. He did some hollowing from the headstock end before reversing and finishing one end. For the final finishing on the other end, Greg mounted the work on a jam chuck with a trumpet shape to fit the finished end of the work. He also taped it in place then removed the majority of the remaining waste with the tailstock up before finally finishing the inner section. Sanding was carried out between the different stages, making sure the abrasive is trailing.



The first stage of Greg's demonstration

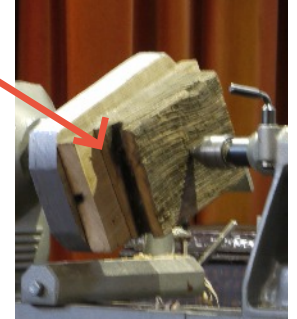


Greg's projects

The next project was a bud vase with an off centre natural edge flower shape at the top. Greg mounted a log off centre between centres. At low speed, he turned a chucking spigot at the drive end then mounted the work in the chuck, bringing the tailstock up for support. Greg shaped the top part first, removing as much as possible with the tailstock in place but aiming for a continuous curve. He then shaped the outside of that part to match, remembering that ideally the bark should be intact. With the tailstock removed and the lathe speed turned down, Greg then used a 3/8 spindle gouge to drill a hole nearly to the base. He then shaped the flower right into the hole and finally sanded all that area. The outside was then shaped, cutting towards the chuck, turning a stem about 1/2" diameter (remember there is a 3/8" hole through the middle). The vase shaped base was then turned and the piece would be sanded and polished. It was parted off and the base tidied up and sanded using an arbor on the lathe. The raffle and lunch break followed.

After lunch Greg turned a bottle stopper, an ideal use for odd scraps of wood. He drilled a 3/8" hole in the base of the blank then mounted it between centres and faced off the headstock end. He then shaped the base with a skew and finished off the top area with a gouge before parting it off. It was sanded and sealed and finished with Briwax. Greg then turned a dowel insert with one end 3/8" to fit the top and the other to fit the plastic stopper.

Onto another project, this time a fence post bowl. To mount the work without leaving screw holes, Greg cut away a section of the post on the two opposite cut edges, leaving a square in the middle. The resulting two flaps were used to secure the work with screws to a jig fixed to a faceplate. Greg used tape to stop fibres tearing out and turned a bowl shape in the blank. Bear in mind that old posts often have ironmongery hidden in them. Old nails may be a feature especially if burnished, as long as your tools avoid them, but old screws are not very attractive. Greg finished the post's natural surfaces on the lathe as far as possible, cleaning them with brushes before sealing and working in Briwax with an old toothbrush. He removed the surplus then used a bristle brush to buff them up. Off the lathe, the two wings would be cut off on a bandsaw and the cuts finished as the rest



To follow this, Greg demonstrated how he turns spheres. The blank was mounted between centres and roughed to round. He cut away the waste ends then marked around the middle of the sphere and using callipers transferred the radius plus 1/4" either side of the middle. Greg then cut the corners off keeping it as round as possible and equal on both sides using the middle line as reference. Next the piece was parted off at both ends. Using cup chucks with a tighter curve than the sphere mounted in the headstock and tailstock, Greg mounted the sphere at an angle between them. Once revolving, a shadow could be seen where the shape was not true. Greg turned this away then repositioned the work between the chucks and repeated until there was no shadow ending up with a sphere.

Greg's final piece was a little oval natural edge bowl turned from a log cut in half lengthways. Lining up the corners, the wood was mounted between centres and a chucking spigot turned on the flat side which would be the base. Greg then shaped the outside and added a foot around the spigot and sanded and finished it before reversing the work into the chuck. When removing the inside waste, Greg worked in sections from the outer edge into the centre as the thin wood flexes. After finishing Greg reversed the piece using camping mat to support it at the headstock end and a washer over the tailstock centre point. He turned away the tenon and removed the remaining pip by hand and sanded the base to finish. Thanks go to Gary for the day's demonstrations. Hopefully members have gone home with some new ideas. Maybe we will see some in the April monthly competition.

Members' Work



First turning, a bowl by new member Jayne Brown



Box by Fred Mitchell



Pascal candlestick turned for St Michael's Church, Playden by Lynn Chambers.



Platter by Gareth Garner



Lamp with captive ring by Gary Woodhouse.



Decorative work by Maggie Wright



Platter by Robert Hollands



Fishing/game priest by Sandra Day

For Sale

Atco Air filter £10. Small Microclean Air Filter £15. 10 speed bench grinder £35. 2 battery air hoods £20. Various bits and pieces/ tools and timber. Contact Mick Briggs 01424 447307

Thank you to everyone who helped set up and clear away at the meeting, particularly the committee members who arrived early and Brian Rowson, Roger Smith and Lynn Chambers who manage the audio visual equipment not forgetting Robert and Margaret Hollands for running the raffle and Alan Capon for supplying the tea and coffee etc.

Reminder for April Meeting.

April 14th 10.00 - 4.00

Simon Hope demonstrating

<https://hopewoodturning.co.uk>

Competition reminder

Novice class Three blind mice

Intermediate class A set of napkin rings

Advanced class A pair of 1/12th scale chairs.
(Dolls' house size)

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

May 19th 10.00 - 4.00

Hands On

Subject tbc but please bring your tools