

Grinders with Greg

Members gathered in September for an in house demonstration by Greg Collett showing his simplified method of turning pepper and salt grinders. After the notices Greg got down to work. He mounted the blank between centres. The timber was a piece of umbilo, a suitable colour for the pepper grinder. Greg roughed it to round then marked the dimensions before continuing. The tailstock end was to be the base. Dimensions will depend on the length of the CrushGrind mechanism. Greg explained that the mechanism is available with different length shafts which can be cut shorter if required unlike the screw top designs which need the turned wood to be a precise length. CrushGrind also produce a mill which has no shaft at all enabling flexibility in design. Having turned a spigot on each end of the base and the top section, Greg parted the top and base and mounted the base in the chuck. Using a drill chuck in the tailstock he then drilled a 45mm hole 20mm deep remembering to allow for the depth of the spigot. Saw tooth bits work better than forstner bits in end grain. Greg marked the required depth on the bit shank with a piece of tape. He then continued drilling with a 38mm bit 40mm deep. Conventionally a recess would then be turned at the top of this hole but Greg finds it unnecessary. The mechanism will be perfectly secure without the clips locating in a recess. Finally he reduced the hole to 25mm. Greg then reversed the work in the chuck to finish the 25mm hole from the other end. Unlike some turners, Greg drills the smaller hole right through last as he finds he can use the centre point of each preceding drill point to keep the holes lined up correctly. The work was then supported with the tailstock centre and Greg roughed out the shape before refining it with the skew. He chamfered the top edge and added a V groove for decoration before removing the waste spigot and sanding the work. Using a purpose made jam chuck held in the lathe chuck, Greg reversed the work to finish the base, removing the spigot and adding a matching chamfer and V groove. For the next stage, Greg mounted the top section and in the same way as for the base, drilled a 22mm hole, 40mm deep. He then turned the top to fit the chamfer on the base before reversing it onto the jam chuck to finish shaping it. The last stage was to fit the mechanism.



Greg's pepper and salt mills

It can be somewhat daunting demonstrating in front of an audience especially when some members are much more experienced. Greg gave a good demonstration and also supplied blanks and mechanisms for members to buy. Thank you Greg.

The raffle and lunch followed the demonstration before the hands on began. Although attendance was down, a few members had a go in the afternoon whilst others bought mills to make up at home.

Many thanks to Robert and Margaret Hollands for running the raffle and to Brian Rowson and team for the visual audio set up and to Alan Capon for tea and coffee. Thanks also go to Brian Pope for selling the abrasives and all those who helped set up the lathes and clear up at the end the day.

Members' Work

Following Robert Holland's demonstration of clock making last month, several members brought in clocks made following his design.



Made at home by beginner,
Jayne Brown.



Started in the hands on and finished at
home by Gareth Garner.



Boxes, above by Jim Moger
below by Paul Filsell.



Hollow form by Fred Mitchell.



Immaculate chess pieces by Mike Knight.



Tealight holder by Tim Cornwall.

This Month's Meeting

October 20th 10.00-4.00

Christmas novelties with Peter Castle

Hands on. Please bring your tools and
pieces of wood see sizes below

One or two pieces 2" x 2" x 3"

Two or three or more pieces 1" x 1" x 6"

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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Massive hollow form by John Turner.

November Meeting

November 17th. 10.00-4.00

Demonstration by Jason Smith.

<http://woodturning.expert>