

Waveney & District



Wood Turners

E-News

Chairman: Brian Wooden.

Secretary: Eric Smith. Treasurer: Ken Rodgers. Events Secretary: David Ritchie

November 2014

November Demonstration.

Due to the unfortunate indisposition of Nick Arnall a last minute change in the programme was required. We are very grateful to Tom Kittle for stepping into the breach at such short notice (I'm not sure he realised just how short) following a phone call from David.

The project chosen for the evening was a "beet box", a trinket box based on the shape of a sugar-beet.

The chosen blank was turned from square to round between centres with a roughing gouge and as is common with most box making a spigot was cut on either end for later chucking. At this point the piece was mounted in the chuck and a 4mm hole was drilled in the bottom of the piece to take a piece of threaded rod to hold the box by means of a key-nut to an already prepared rectangular base. The piece was switched in the chuck, a 10mm shallow hole was drilled in what was to be the lid of the box to take a finial and the section to be used for the lid was parted off. As this was to be quite a tall box the lid section was much less than the normal third of overall height. The base was then hollowed out taking care not to take it too deep so avoiding the hole previously drilled for the threaded rod. After sanding the inside it was given a coat of bright orange acrylic paint, a surprise for the person opening the finished article.



In good "Blue Peter" style a base previously made to this stage was substituted but not before Tom had to make an adjustment to the spigot size as the substitute was turned for his chuck not the club chuck. The ease with which he did this using a friction drive supported by the tailstock was a lesson in itself. The socket to take the lid was trued up and the base removed from the chuck.

The lid section was then put in the chuck, sized to fit the socket in the base of the box and the bottom of the lid was shaped and finished. The base was then returned to the lathe and used as a jam-chuck to enable the top of the lid to be shaped and finished.

A jam chuck was then made to enable the outside of the base of the box to be given its final shape and for the diameter of the bottom to be adjusted to fit the hole in the base.

All that now remained was for a finial to be made to finish off the piece. As Tom had not sanded to a finish as he went along the photographs show the component parts and not the finished article.

All in all a slightly different take with the box shape having local roots (sorry) and to my eye a very pleasing overall effect.



Key-nuts and rod to hold box to base



Before shaping



After shaping showing key-nut rod.



Lid and Finial

Table items

As always Tom was very happy to do a critique for the table items; I feel it is well worth doing as there is always something to learn.







Chairman's Choice

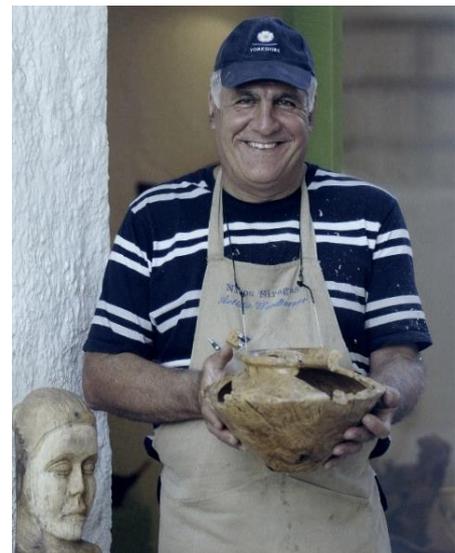
Perhaps this can also be called “dish of the day”. This month I have selected the bowl by Len Stout (pictured above) A beautifully finished piece incorporating carving and colour to produce a very pleasing overall effect.

Additional November Meeting

Following some hard work by our programme secretary we were delighted to welcome Nikos Sirigas and his wife Frances to Waveney and District Woodturners for an evening demonstration on Thursday 20th November.

The evening began with a classic Sirigas signature piece, a wave topped bowl.

The bowl was turned in conventional fashion with the blank initially held between steb-centre and tailstock in order to get the blank trued up and some shape into the bottom of the bowl; a spigot was also turned to enable the piece to be reversed and held in the chuck. As this was a demonstration piece Nikos did minimal finishing so as to cover the whole



process but said that this was the time to finish the bottom as it is more difficult to sand after the carving had be completed.

The bowl was reversed in the chuck and the outside shaping completed including the rolled over rim; the bottom of the bowl flared slightly as it approached the rim. Before beginning the hollowing Nikos marked out the guidelines for the carving operation. Using the tool rest set at centre height a diameter was drawn across the face of the piece and extended down either side and a circumference was drawn at the required depth for the carving. Hollowing was the next operation;



Final Shaping

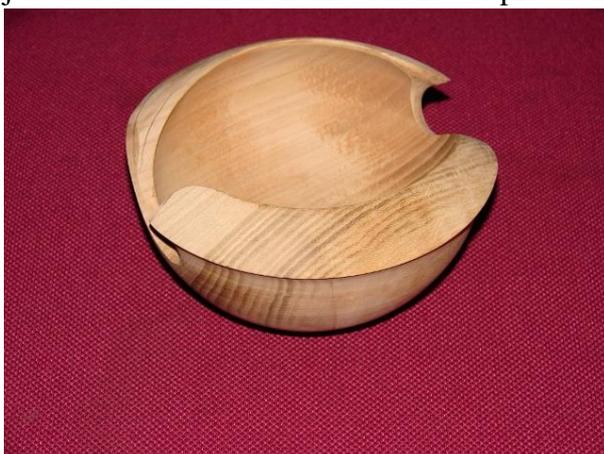


Final Hollowing with Scraper

this was completed using a bowl gouge and for the undercut of the rim a tear-drop scraper designed by Nikos and ground at about 40 degrees. A final scraping (with the scraper ground at 40 degrees this is a cut rather than a scrape) of the inside and the piece was ready for carving.

Whilst we all strive to obtain an even wall thickness for our bowls on this project a better effect is obtained from the carving if the bowl thickens slightly across the rim and then thins off again into the body of the bowl.

Nikos began the carving with a Proxxon mini angle grinder fitted with a carving wheel. He cut at right-angles down to the depth line already marked on either side of the piece and then into the rim at about 30 degrees to meet with the bottom of the first cuts removing two triangular pieces from the rim; an important piece of advice here was to “always leave wood for the next tool”. The next stages of the carving were carried out using both a round and square small Micro-Plane rasp, various finer rasps and finally abrasive. The abrasives were held on to a homemade shaped holder, a piece of dowel with a flat side and covered with Velcro. In what seemed no time at all the wave shapes were carved with all the sizing and symmetry done by eye. The top picture is of the piece just as it came off the lathe. The lower picture a piece finished to a very high standard; you will no doubt appreciate the amount of work required to achieve such a finish.



The second piece of the evening was a piece of spindle turning; a tall tea light holder. Deceptively simple it consists of two tapers to a central bead. Having created a spigot to mount it in the chuck the diameter of the tea-light was marked on the top and the piece hollowed to the required depth with Nikos emphasising the need for light cuts due to the distance from the chuck. The outer shape was then created, top first to the bead, then the bottom and finally the bead.



The picture shows the bottom of the piece being finished after being parted off and mounted on a jam-chuck

The final piece of the evening was a small pendant made from a square blank. The blank was mounted in the chuck and faced-off with a slightly dome shape and using a decorating tool (it looked to me like half an engineer's knurling tool) cut a pattern in the surface in two rings; these were delineated using appoint tool. A hole was drilled through the face in one corner of the blank to take a chain or leather thong and the piece parted off; hey-presto, a lovely little piece of costume jewellery to finish the evening.

On the whole, a thoroughly entertaining and informative evening. Thank you Nikos.

Next Meeting

Our December meeting will be a social evening in a similar format to last year. There will be quizzes, a draw and plenty to eat. Coffee will be served but if you like an alcoholic drink with your buffet you are welcome to bring your own.

If you are able to donate a seasonal prize for the raffle we will be delighted to accept it.

This year's awards will be decided at this meeting so please bring items for the display table. We are looking for :-

- the best piece
- best advanced spindle piece
- best advanced face-plate piece
- best novice spindle piece
- best novice face-plate piece

Please come along in the party spirit and a good time will be had by all.

Acknowledgements.

The club would very much like to thank Margaret and David Ritchie for playing host to Nikos and Frances whilst they were in the area. It was this offer of hospitality that enable the club to arrange the demonstration which would have otherwise been beyond our means.

AWGB Subscriptions

A big thank-you to all who paid their subs in November. It makes our dealings with the AWGB so much easier.

AGM

Our January meeting will be the AGM. More details will be in the next issue of Enews and further information will be sent out in early January. It is at this meeting where annual club membership will be renewed and subscriptions collected.

Happy Turning