

Waveney & District Wood Turners

E-News

Chairman: Brian Wooden.

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

November 2015

Phill Barber MBE

October 1943-October 2015



We are sorry to report the death of long-standing club member Phill Barber. Phill has been a member since long before I joined the club and his welcome on my first night was something I will always remember. His well-known party trick was to turn a sphere using a piece of car exhaust pipe as the cutting tool which he so ably demonstrated at our last hands-on night; he will be missed

November Demonstration

Our scheduled demonstrator was unable to join us due to having had an accident. We were fortunate in that David was recommended to contact Darren Breeze, a former club member, to see if he was available to fill in at short notice; we were doubly fortunate that Darren was able to oblige. His chosen piece was a decorated hollow-form from a lump (technical term) of green sycamore.

Darren began with the piece between centres (a large steb centre gripped in the chuck jaws) and quickly roughed it to round and put a spigot on one end to match the jaws. It was then gripped in the jaws and roughly turned to shape. A hole was the drilled into the piece to set the depth for the hollowing.



The piece was then hollowed using a 10mm round tungsten-carbide cutter in a hollowing jig with a laser guide; both items designed and sold by Simon Hope. (There is a picture of this set-up being used by Andy Coates in the May 2015 edition of Enews.) The wall thickness was about 4mm.

As Darren explained the purpose of the demonstration was to show how to achieve a finished article so although the finish from the tool was good it did not get the attention to finish either inside or out that a piece for display would merit.

The hollowing completed, a mini-angle grinder with a 2inch chainsaw blade fitted was used to carve random grooves in the surface of the vessel. A totally random finish is hard to achieve, as Darren explained, the eye wants you to make a pattern. To assist in the randomness various sections of the piece were carved and then linked until the whole of it was covered.

The lathe was swept clean of shavings and dust and a blow torch was used to scorch the whole of the inside of the vessel until it was a nice matt black all over. This was done with a gentle flame with the piece being constantly rotated. The torch was then used on the outside of the piece to gently highlight the highpoints of the carved surface.

The fun was not yet over as Darren then took an oscillating saw to cut vee shape pieces from around the rim to give a flame effect to the whole. The final touch was to add some acrylic colour, red and yellow, darker at the base and fading to the top. This was done by placing a blob (another technical term) of colour on the palm of the left hand and dabbing the colour onto the piece with the fingers of the right hand; disposable gloves were used to protect the hands. The whole was finished with a coat of sanding sealer. We are grateful to Darren for a very comprehensive demonstration.



Tables

During our break for refreshments Darren was kind enough to give an encouraging and helpful critique of the pieces on the table. As ever I am pleased to see the very good response to the display table each month.



Chairman's Choice.

It does not get any easier to make this choice each month and as this is the last opportunity for me to make it I have opted to pick two pieces.

The first follows my oft stated preference for an excellent finish and shape which enhances the natural beauty of the wood; this is Roger Lowry's bowl.



My second choice for the month is a beautifully finished and superbly decorated platter; this is a piece by Ivan Tatnell.



Next Meeting

Training night is Monday November 30th starting at 7.00pm.

Our next meeting is the "Wood-choppers Ball" on Thursday December 10th; I look forward to seeing you all there.

A.G.M.

The club AGM is on January 14th when we are looking to fill vacancies for Chairman and Treasurer. Please give it some thought. Please also give some thought to any ideas that you may have to move the club forward; your input and feedback is important to the committee.

Happy Turning

