

Waveney & District Woodturners



February 2018 E-News

Chairman: Andrew Platt Secretary: Andrew Bigg Treasurer: Chris Petch
Events Secretary: David Ritchie Committee Member: John Peek Webmaster: Len Stout



Got To Get a Witness... (...Stick That Is)

This month's demonstrator was an old favourite and former club chairman, Andy Coates.

His first demonstration was to discuss and illustrate how to go about duplicating/copying a piece. In this instance it was to be an old chair spindle about 16-18in long. It had a beaded centre section that tapered at each end to a single bead before tapering off to the end tenons.

Firstly he mounted a square section spindle between steb centres and rounded it off with a spindle roughing gouge. Using steb centres was much safer than using two or four prong drives which could split the wood.



He discussed ways of transferring the pattern from the original to the target spindle, firstly by holding them together and marking with a pencil, or taking measurements and transferring them, but felt that the use of a "Witness Stick" was the way forward.



A Witness Stick comprises a length of 3/8th ply with the positions of all the spindle elements marked along one edge. On the opposite edge various sized cut-outs were created that were to be used as gauges for the different size spindle sections in order to recreate the same diameter sizes as the original.

Andy also suggested that small sharpened panel pins could be inserted along the edge where the design changes were. It can then held against the spindle on the lathe as it turned in order to transfer the positions on to the spindle in one movement. Once a Witness Stick has been created, it can be used continuously to create multiple pieces of exactly the same design - an essential tool for production turners in particular.

Using the Witness Stick the dimensions were transferred to the spindle and Andy began basic shaping by setting the diameters at the various points of the spindle using a parting tool.



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The shaping of the spindle was mostly with a skew chisel to ensure minimal sanding. In doing so he discussed the benefits of mastering the skew, one of which was creating the beads in the middle section of the spindle.



The divides between the beads were marked using the skew and Andy then used his 1/4in beading tool to roll the beads into shape. He recognised that many people use a specially shaped beading tool for this purpose but that they were effectively scrapers and would not necessarily produce the same quality finish as the flat edge of a beading tool.



When creating the taper furthest from the chuck, Andy encountered some vibration and chattering. He countered this by placing his hand underneath the tool rest to lightly hold the back of the spindle. This is not a recommended method and should only be used when fully competent and where no loose clothing is worn that might get caught.

This is also a method often used when turning delicate finials etc. Vibration can sometimes be made worse by tightening the tailstock too much and causing flexing of a narrow piece, causing problems with the final sanding.

Spinning Top and Hand Held Launcher

In the second session Andy was to produce a spinning top launcher. Not something he would normally do, but has had many requests for more since making his first one. He produced a spindle 200mm x 50mm x 50mm that had been pre-drilled with two opposing holes at one end. This was to be the actual launcher.



It was mounted between centres and turned to a cylinder. A cove was firstly cut 20mm below the holes using a spindle gouge, where Andy discussed how important it was to cut down across the grain in order to get a good clean finish as opposed to cutting upwards and tearing wood the fibres. The cove was then extended towards the base of the piece to create the handle section. The top and bottom ends were marked and turned down using a parting tool.

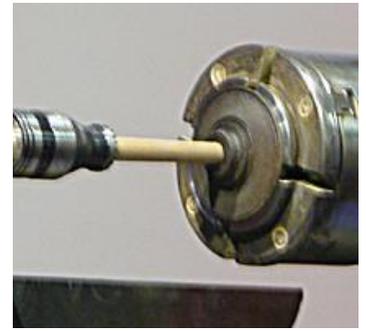


To add a little interest to the piece three small v-cuts were made and a black feature ring created by using a small piece of Formica to burn the line into the wood.





For the spinning top Andy suggested that any scrap pieces of wood could be used. First up was to produce the stem of the top. A 1in square spindle was mounted and turned to approximately 1/3rd the size of the holes in the launcher. It was sanded smooth and parted off at a length about 30mm longer than the diameter of the launcher.



Andy then used a piece of scrap bog oak to form the base of the spinning top. The underside of the piece was turned first with a small “design” tenon so that the piece could be turned around and remounted in the chuck to finish it off. This was done with the centre tapering outwards. This was then drilled to receive the stem section and the two were glued together.



The top was put into one of the holes of the launcher and a small hole drilled centrally. A suitable thread was put through the hole and the top turned to wind it on. The thread is then pulled and the spinning top launched on to the chosen surface.

Andy did say that the launcher and top could be coloured to make them more appealing. We assumed he meant to children or even the “young at heart” club members.

THIS MONTH'S TABLE ENTRIES – OOPS!!!!

PLEASE NOTE: As already explained in an email, I forgot to take pictures of our display table on the evening and have since requested them from exhibiting members.

I have received some but think it might be best to bring along your pieces to the March meeting so they can be displayed on a “February” table.

Obviously bring along anything new as usual for the night's display table.

CHAIRMAN'S CHOICE

This will go to the superb miniature lathe made by original club member Roy Edmunds (Picture Pending)

Roy Edmunds Miniature Turning Trophy

At our AGM Roy Edmunds presented the club with a new trophy to be awarded to the member submitting the best miniature piece of wood turning. Normally this would be presented at our annual Christmas Party in December, however, your committee felt it would be appropriate to make the presentation in the near future.

To that end you are invited to bring along your miniature pieces to our scheduled meeting on April 12th where we will invite our demonstrator for the evening, Simon Hope, to judge and award the trophy.

We also suggest, at least for this year, that the definition of “miniature” should be something that is a 12th of its normal size (dolls house size) or possibly less.

Have Fun!



Monday Training Nights

Training nights begin on Monday, 29th January at Mutford Village Hall - **7pm PROMPT** onwards.
A great way to learn and hone your skills in a sociable atmosphere. Plus teas, coffee and biscuits

Monday training nights for the remainder of the year are as follows:
Feb 26th, March 26th, April 30th, Sept 24th, Oct 29, Nov 26th.

Coming Soon

Gary Rance - All Day Demonstration

Saturday 14th April - Norwich Woodturners Club - 10pm-4pm
The Senior Citizens Club, Recreation Ground Road, Sprowston, Norwich. NR7 8EW
Tickets from: Roger Rout at March meeting. Buffet included.



Les Thorne - All Day Demonstration

Saturday 12th May - Mutford Village Hall - 10pm-4pm
This will be a great, fun and informative day. **NOT ONE TO MISS.**
Tickets £15 from: David Ritchie. Buffet Included.

Midland Woodworking and Power Tool Show

23-24th March - Newark Showground, Nottingham NG24 2NY - 10am-4pm Both Days
A very popular show visited by many club members last year who got many a bargain.

Those interested need to contact each other to arrange transport on or before our March Club Night

ALL ABOUT MINIATURE TURNING - STARTER VIDEOS

Make a Special Note of the Tools and Techniques Used

YOUTUBE VIDEOS:

(Hold the Ctrl Key down and Click on the link)

How to Make Small Round Lathe Tools Pt1 of 3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eBa2eYa5vVc>

How to Make Small Round Lathe Tools Pt2 of 3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMogaU6aiI8>

How to Make Small Round Lathe Tools Pt3 of 3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FVBPfkNjGjQ>

Miniature Bird House Pt 1 of 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUQR2qYDAkU>

Miniature Bird House Pt 2 of 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=96tQFGZ6AAk>

Micro Turning Goblet 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCLeif8KVdY>

Micro Turning Goblet 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2-KOZz1YuY>

Miniature Box with Mushroom Shape Lid: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpeDsNZf1q0>

Miniature Cake Stand: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k6aeOrMFOoo>

Miniature Woodturning Collection: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WP35ILAnOdg>

Turning a Miniature Demo Pt 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eM4lSoXhUU>

Turning a Miniature Demo Pt 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIraCKzHOJ4>

I HOPE THESE ARE HELPFUL AND OF INTEREST



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