

Waveney & District Woodturners



November 2018 E-News

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

Bowl Turning Back to Basics

with Darren Breeze



As we have a number of new members we thought it appropriate to focus this month's demonstration on detail and rudiments of bowl turning also with the hope some of the older hands would be reminded on what they should have done. Darren introduced us to the screw chuck, face plate ring and steb centre, with a note of caution that when using the steb centre to be aware of the balance of the piece to maximise the wood and stay within safe limits.

Darren took time out to explain that cutting a spigot of the correct size is paramount if the jaws are to fit when they are in the round mode. Jaws are normally ground at 15 degrees, the same angle as most skew chisels. The base of the spigot should always be slightly larger e.g. 60mm jaws require a 60.26 mm base size. The reverse is also true for jaws in the expanded mode. The screw chuck was used tonight and Darren mounted a piece of wet Ash to the screw chuck.



The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain



LOTTERY FUNDED

With an out of balance piece Darren was unable to turn the speed up but turned the edge away using light pull cuts on a swept back bowl gouge. The bowl shape soon appeared and as the waste was removed the speed of the lathe was increased. Pieces of the trees' Cambium layer were still evident, so they were removed before cutting the spigot.



Changing to the left hand material was removed from the top edge to improve the balance. I do not recommend that trainees try to change hands until they have gained sufficient experience. With the tail stock removed the spigot was formed and Darren marked the size required having used callipers and dividers to transfer the dimensions required. Using a round skew the foot was cleaned up and a dove tailed spigot with a 15 degree recess was formed. The spigot will later become the foot of the bowl and should be approximately one third of the diameter of the bowl.



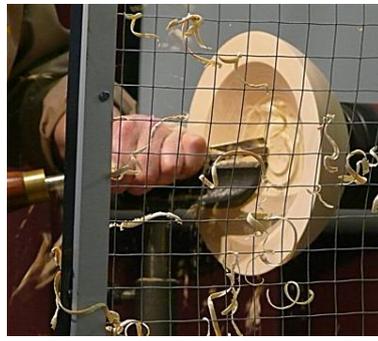
Darren emphasised the importance of having your body weight correctly balanced at all times, pivoting your hips and not moving your feet. Cutting 'uphill' with a standard grind produces a good finish. A reference point was made in the centre of the spigot as the piece was wet wood and bound to distort.



Back to the long grind bowl gouge the face was trued up bevel rubbing all of the time. After changing to a straight ground bowl gouge with a 45 degree grind, Darren emphasized the need for beginners to try and make every cut a practice for a finishing cut, a push cut back on the bevel and in again helps practicing your cuts.

When approaching the centre turn the tool higher so that the wing cuts the pimple off from the centre. When entering the excavated part of the bowl it is often useful to make an initial cut with a parting tool which will prevent the gouge from running off the edge.





The tool will always follow the angle of the bevel, so by manipulating the tool almost any angle can be achieved - from straight sided to a round side of the bowl. Darren recommends that you practice your cuts on smaller blanks building up your skills and muscle memory. Mass material can be removed quickly with a long grind but the finish will not be as good so practice finishing cuts with a standard 45 degree bowl gouge. Never force a cut always try to stay in control.



A negative rake scraper was demonstrated removing very fine shavings, this particular grind is more forgiving than the standard grind. Under normal circumstances the piece would be power sanded through all the grits up to 600, as we have a dust problem in the hall Darren finished the piece prematurely.

For all food contact pieces Darren uses a mixture of purified mineral oil and bees wax in the ratio of 4 parts oil to 1 part wax. This is much cheaper than buying food safe oil from a manufacturer.

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**Next Training Session**

**Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup> – Faceplate/bowl turning – bring your own sharpened tools.**

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Annual Woodchoppers Ball

Thursday, December 13th December - 7pm Start-Sharp

Please bring your work for our Club Display plus Competition Entries - Categories below.

Advanced and Novice Faceplate and Spindle Turning, Miniature Turning and Best in Show

Raffle prize donations also wanted on the night. - **DO NOT FORGET:** To return last year's trophies.

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**AGM – Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Attendance is ultra important to elect new officers.**

Outstanding AWGB and membership subs to be collected on the night.

