



Editors Comments

In this Edition

Editor's Comments

Profile : *Jonathan Brostoff*
Professional Demonstrators
November : *Paul Howard*
cancelled

Club Demonstrators
January : *Ghenadi Vasiliev*
 Talk on bursary award.

Projects : Jacobean Chair

Your Committee
Chairman : **Jeff Hyams**
hyamsjeff@btinternet.com
Vice Chair :
Jonathan Brostoff
Events & Secretary
Brian Tidmarsh
brian@thetidmarshs.co.uk
Training Officer :
Terry Vaughan
tvaughan1234@aol.com
Equipment Officer :
David Gerrard
davidgerrard@btinternet.com
Treasurer : **Trevor Hails**
lafhails@aol.com
Newsletter editor : **David Gerrard**
davidgerrard@btinternet.com

Well folks this is a big one
 We are moving into new premises for the next club
 meeting on January 17th.
 To remind members of the address and location it is

**Arkley Village Hall,
 Brickfield Lane,
 Barnet
 EN5 3LD**

**Brickfield Lane is opposite the Gate Pub on
 Barnet lane , some 100 yards up the lane.
 There is plenty of room for parking
 Entry from 7.30pm**



Arkley Village Hall - opposite the Gate Pub

Dates for your diary 2018 Programme

January 17th : Opening talk in new premises
**Ghenadi Vasiliev : Turning, learning and benefits - Experiences
 of Bursary award in UK & USA, Power Point presentation.**

Febuary 21st : *Kevin Hutson [2nd demo to our club]*
March 21st : Members get-together
April 18th : *Gary Rance [2 talk & demo]*
May 16th : Brian Tidmarsh - Xmas Decorations
*No demos arranged yet till November when Paul Howard will give
 demo missed in Nov 2017*

Profile - Jonathan Brostoff



Jonathan Brostoff is Professor Emeritus of Allergy and Environmental Health, and has spent a life in medicine. He has written several authoritative textbooks on the subject and is internationally known.

What is not so well known is that he is a skilled craftsman and woodturner. In his earlier years he looked for a diversion from his medical career in the form of cabinet making and then “discovered” woodturning some thirty years ago. He is still fascinated that he can fashion a log into a beautiful three dimensional object. He still uses the same lathe he had 22 years ago and sees no reason to change it.

Early training came from a sadistic tutor who would deliberately drop gouges on a concrete floor in order for Jonathan to sharpen them .

Further short training sessions with Bill Care in Bury St Edmunds followed. He was a founder member of our club when Jeremy Eckstein, and Robert Craig, would meet in his kitchen to discuss woodturning projects.

Jonathan is not a fan of segmented turning or over elaborate décor & colour. For him and many like minded turners, it’s the natural beauty of the wood that counts.

His house has beautiful pieces on almost every shelf, some of his works are shown opposite. Asked which was his favourite piece he pointed to a spalted beech goblet with a barley twist stem - seen opposite.

He is an admirer of the work of Richard Rafan .

The three cornered bowl he made from a square oak beam is not easy to make ... can you work out the sequence of steps?

When asked how, he told me to work it out for myself..

Jonathan is turning wood most days giving much away to family and friends



Natural Edged bowls are a favourite of Jonathan's turning interests

Spalted Beech Goblet with barley twist stem



Three cornered bowl

Craft Fair in Community Centre Ruislip November 27th - 2017



With the requirement for a new lathe, [as the current one is really no longer fit for purpose] NWL Club needed to raise funds. Also the move to the new premises would be more costly than in the current location. It was suggested that each club member who could spare and donate an item for sale at a local craft could raise some cash for the club.

We had an excellent response, with one member alone donating 15 major items and with over a 100 items on display in total. The items were grouped according to their perceived value from £2 to £120. Four of the club members were present to set up the stall and man the stand.

We were a bit overambitious in our expectations and most of the better and more expensive items didn't sell. Best sellers were small mushrooms and a few smaller bowls. However two large bowls were sold and we took almost £200 on the day. Taking away the costs of the stands and the credit card machine purchase, we were left with a small profit.

On review the location wasn't in the right area for high-end sales, but it was a useful venture and a learning curve for future events for the club.

The better venues were fully booked as it was so near to Xmas when we first started the project. In 2018 we plan a summer / spring fair and a Xmas fair and hope to do better. Several visitors took flyers with a view to joining the club ... who knows if they will .

Possible location to be reviewed for 2018 are Hatfield House; Burgh House; Knebworth Hall & Stephens House in Finchley .. all more high end locations.

If anyone has any money raising ideas please contact a committee member

.

New Club Lathe

We are indebted to Jeff Hyams for organizing a new club lathe.

It seems that that AWGB [Association of Woodturners of Great Britain] generously offer new equipment to start up clubs in the UK.

We applied and will soon have on permanent loan an Axminster AT1416VS lathe with variable speed motor along with a chuck package and stand.

If for some reason the club ceases to exist, the lathe would be returned as it is the property of AWGB

New Fee structure

It was agreed at the committee meeting in December, that the fee structure will be revised to cover costs for the new venue .

A full fee schedule is available, but in brief the new annual membership will be £60. A visitor will be charged £5 for an evening, and if the visitor comes to a demonstration it will be £10. Other fees for juniors [under 18] and family membership are also listed

Woodturning Cruise

Does this take your fancy ?

10 days in the Norwegian Fiords along with world famous turners

Dates are 20.Aug 2018 - 1 Sept

For booking & more information re costs etc...

Call Odd-Erik at Verktoy AS

Norway : 0047 518 868 00

Go to www.woodturningcruise.com for video and more information .

Do you want a warm workshop

Here a tip which you might find useful .

Make sure you have a RCD [Circuit Breaker] installed in your house for the workshop electrical supply - This is pretty much necessary for safety

When you leave the workshop leave the heaters on, then switch everything off with a throw of the switch on the RCD in your house.

Before you next go into the workshop switch on 10 minutes before you go out .. your workshop will be warm. Works a treat, no more waiting to warm up in a cold workshop !

Buy & Sell

Do you want to sell tools, wood,

Advertise them in the Newsletter, I have a pillar drill press going for £25 ... any interest ? contact editor

For Green logs : Tree Surgeons you might contact : Bartlett Tree Experts

Coursers Farm : Coursers Road , Colney Heath, St Albans AL4 0PG

01727 825090; radlett@bartlettuk.com

OR Mike Tree Surgeon / : 07913 881329 / 01923 883560

News Items

Woodturning Magazine [Mark Baker - editor] have offered us a 500 word article on our new club location with images of a demo & of some of our best work. They will feature an article by Ghenadi on his bursary

Revolutions [Sheila Hughes - editor] have also offered to feature the new location in their next edition

Dates for activities outside the club

The Midland Woodworking Show 23rd- 24th March 2018 at Newark Showground NG24 2NY (www.nelton.co.uk)
D&M Tools " The Tool Show" at Kempton Park Racecourse TW16 5AQ 12th - 14th October (free entry)
Harrogate Show 16th - 18th November 2018 (www.nelton.co.uk)

The March Challenge :

The March challenge is to make a Pepper / Salt Mill

There are too many pages and illustrations for the newsletter but the entire challenge is to be found on our website the URL is : -

<http://www.northlondonwoodturners.co.uk/march-challenge>

Turning

A fine grind

 Combine a modern mechanism with a traditional design and turn your own version of Les Thorne's mill

Wooden pepper grinders have been in use for a very long time; there was even one found on Henry VIII's flagship the Mary Rose.

Today there's a variety of mechanisms, from the Cole & Mason type which is adjusted by turning the knob on the top, to electric ones. I prefer the crush grind type, as the whole thing is made from ceramic and plastic it can be used for pepper or salt – metal grinders can be corroded by salt.

These mechanisms from Simon Hope Woodturning are not expensive and because they do not require a hole all the way through, their use opens up more design opportunities.

The mills are best not made from strong-smelling timbers or wood that contains a lot of tannin because this could affect the flavour of the peppercorns.

Preparation

To go through every operation in the making of a peppermill would require more words than I am allowed so hopefully the drawing of some similar designs shown on p87 will explain all the drill sizes that you have to go



▲ Pic 1 Blank prepared and the drill bits ready for use

▲ Pic 2 With one end held in the chuck, true up the end

▲ Pic 3 Start with your largest drill bit

Sharpening Turning Tools - Terry Vaughan



1 Jig to set platform angle



2 Jig for grinding wing angle



3 Setting Fold Angle

Turners soon discover the importance of sharp tools. A sharp tool cuts cleanly and makes turning a pleasure. A blunt one fights you. Sharpening is needed much more often than beginners like to hear. But sharpening is a skill as hard to learn as the turning itself. There are at least three ways to sharpen a gouge, and I recommend you try them all.

Freehand grinding

This is quick to do, takes a lot of practice to acquire and maintain the skill, and makes the gouge shorter while you learn. Turners with a lot of experience often sharpen this way, possibly because when they began there was no alternative - grinding jigs were unknown. While it is perfectly possible to learn freehand grinding, using a jig is easier and more reliable.

Platform grinding

This method uses a platform set at the proper angle to help freehand grinding. It's quick and repeatable for spindle roughing gouges and other tools with a straight-across or near straight-across cutting edge, such as scrapers and skew chisels. It's probably the best method for such tools. If the platform can be kept set at the correct angle, grinding only takes seconds. But this is not always possible if different tools are ground on it, so that the angle needs to be changed each time. Platform angle setting jigs are a great help. They are very easy to make, and let you set any angle quickly and accurately. The setting jig is as in Fig 1, but with a straight edge that rests on the platform. The gouge is kept in full contact with the platform while rolling it from side to side. Fingernail gouges have to be swivelled from side to side at the same time. They can be sharpened on a platform, but need more practice, and the grind is less repeatable.

Jig sharpening

This is the way many beginners go, and with good reason. It's not much slower than freehand grinding, and is more accurate and repeatable. All grinding jigs work in much the same way, but they differ in quality. I like the Oneway Varigrind system. Others can be less user-friendly.

There are three variables to set before using a grinding jig. The variables are rarely critical, but it is essential that they are set the same every time.

Firstly, the grinding jig fold angle. This can be set using a simple jig, as in Fig 3. The greater the angle (the two parts of the jig folded closer to right angles to each other), the more obtuse the sharpening angle on the nose of the gouge, and the more vertical the grind on the wings.

Secondly, the distance from the jig pivot point to the grinding wheel. The greater the distance, the lower the gouge will be on the wheel, and the more obtuse the grind. This distance can be set very easily with a jig like in Fig 1. It references from the wheel, which compensates for wheel wear. This is better than using distance blocks on the arm, which put the gouge edge lower on the wheel as the wheel gets smaller. When using the jig it is important not to let the weight of the gouge handle pull the jig pivot closer to the wheel.

the gouge projection.

Finally, the gouge projection. This is easily set using a depth stop. I favour putting the gouge loosely in the jig then standing it edge-down in a vertical hole drilled in a wooden block. The jig is then locked. Greater projection moves the edge higher on the wheel and makes a more acute sharpening angle, but it is not often necessary to change the projection from the manufacturers recommendation.

Note hole on block mounted to grinding bench .. its approx.1.5" deep

The grinding jig sets the grinding angle accurately and repeatable, but does not create the shape of the tool edge. You do that by grinding in the right place on the edge.



Honing

Most turners these days don't hone their tools, because an edge straight from the grinder works very well. But that edge is not as sharp as a honed edge, and the sharper the tool, the better the cut. Honing can be done with a diamond card, an oil or water stone, or a buffing wheel. Any of these will give an extremely sharp edge. But it is very easy to round over the edge. It may then be sharp, but impossible to use for turning because there is no proper bevel behind it. So I recommend that you experiment with honing, but concentrate on the grinding.

The burr

A heavy burr on the inside edge of a gouge, created by excessive grinding, can make it blunt and stop it cutting. You will see score lines on the surface of the wood. It should be removed. One way to do this is with a rolled-up bit of abrasive paper.

Sharpening equipment

Like most turners, I use a bench grinder. It should have wheels of six or eight inches diameter. A high speed dry grinder works very well. The wheels must run true and be kept clean, and it may be necessary to remove the supplied tool rests. The grey wheels often supplied with the machine can be used, but wheels intended for high speed steel are better. A light touch is needed when grinding to avoid damaging the edge. Some prefer a belt sander, but personally I see no advantage.

Changing the gouge angle

Grind the tool you wish to change the angle on, to a new angle set by the protractor Fig 4
Grind down to the new angle Fig 5, Then sharpen away the blunt edge as before

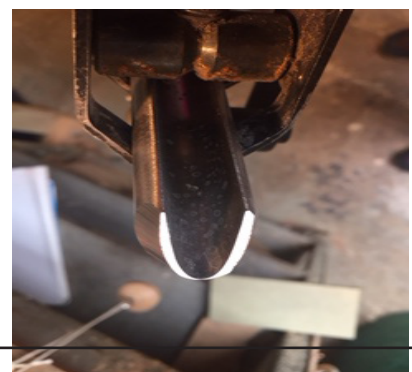


Fig 4

Use of protractor to set new angle on bowl gouge

Fig 5

Grind gouge to new angle - then sharpen with Jig



Got any ideas for the Newsletter ...

How about describing what you learnt from a mistake, catch or something that went wrong ?

What's the best way to make a bread board or cheese board.

How do you hold it - with hot melt glue ?

Please write some thing that will interest the readers.

