



Cheam Woodturners Association

Associated with the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

Twinned with Central Oklahoma Woodturners Association



Turned by Chris Grace

December 2014

Chris: champion spin doctor

With Christmas looming, it seems appropriate that toys are on the menu. Richard Hoodless reports on how Chris Grace entertained us royally in November, demonstrating how to make two types of spinning top, one with a separate launcher, the other with a means of spinning the top without a separate launcher



Chris started by marking out the centres of a 60mm square blank, 80mm long, with an engineer's centre finder marking the centre from all four corners in case the blank was not quite square. He put a wood faceplate in the lathe chuck, faced with a piece of cork tile fixed with double-sided carpet tape.

The cork was trimmed to a circle with the long point of a skew chisel. To turn a chucking spigot he secured the blank using the pressure of the tailstock. Using a roughing gouge with slightly swept back wings he cut the corners off the blank to form the spigot.

A scraper ground to the angle of the dovetail jaws was used to form the spigot. About 50mm of the blank was turned down to just under 12mm using both a roughing gouge and a spindle gouge and rounded over the top of the spinning top.

Protect the fingers

He recommends gripping the stem of the tool rest with the fingers so that they are not struck by the jaws of the chuck. The top was reversed and the stem held in a split disc of wood held in the chuck and having a 12mm hole in the centre. The tailstock was brought

Pictures (right) top to bottom:

Wood faceplate with Steb centre giving backup pressure.

With the bottom formed, the Steb is pulled clear to allow final shaping.

The finished spinning top showing where string is fitted.

Chris drills the holes for the second launcher handle.



If you have any comments, corrections, or items to add, please contact e-news editor: ron_grace@btinternet.com

We look forward to seeing you all on December 17

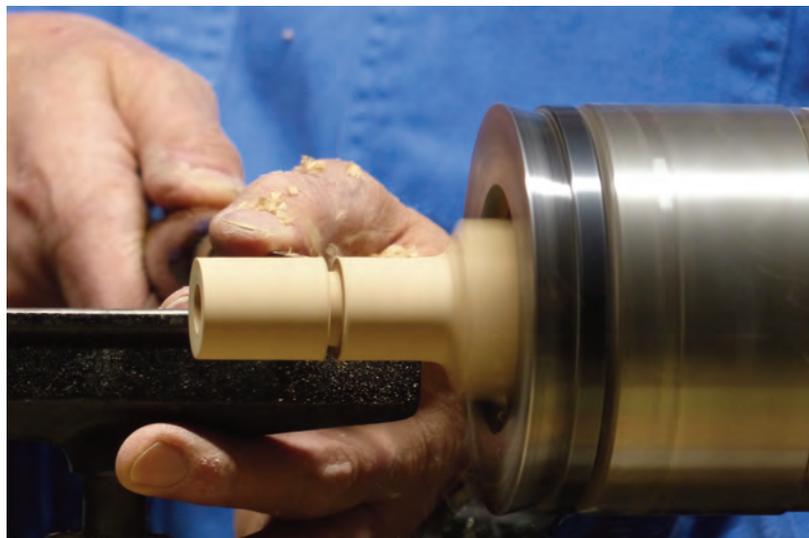
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up to support the end of the top and the bottom of the top turned to shape.

The tailstock was removed and the shaping completed using shear cuts. The launcher handle was formed from a 150mm x 30mm square piece of wood. Two holes of 12 and 20mm were drilled at right angles to each other near the end and the handle was turned to a cylinder leaving the part where the two holes had been drilled square (about 30mm).

Some decoration was turned on the end of this handle in the form of beads. The square end of the wood was cut into the 20mm hole to make a yoke shape. A 3mm hole was drilled in the stem of the spinning top to coincide with the centre of the yoke.

To spin the top, slip the yoke piece over the stem of the top and wrap a piece of string round the stem. Pull the string sharply and let the top drop to the floor from the yoke handle.



Don't lose the launcher

Chris explained it was easy for the top and handle to get separated and so after the break he made a ring to go on the stem which could be left there permanently.

To make the ring he drilled a 20mm hole in the end of a 35mm square blank and placed it on a spigot in the chuck. The end was turned down to 11.5mm using scraping cuts as there was not much holding the wood.

It was ensured that the shoulder was cut square. This piece was held in the split jig, a mark was made 30mm from the end and a 12mm hole drilled at right angles to the blank on a centre 15mm from the end. The 30mm length of the blank was turned to a barrel shape. Then a 20mm hole was drilled in the end to a depth of 35mm and the piece parted off to 30mm long.

To spin the top with the captive launcher, place the ring over the stem of the top and wrap a piece of string round the stem. Hold the ring, pull the string sharply and let the top touch the floor leaving the ring in place.



Top and above: spinning top with captive launcher. Left: just one item from Chris's display. Below: Collection of items on show



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Chairman's greetings

On behalf of my fellow committee members and myself I would like to wish all of you a very happy and relaxing Christmas holiday.

As a club we have had some excellent demonstrations over the past year and, having seen next year's list, I can say we have some more to come.

I would sincerely like to thank my

fellow committee members for their excellent teamwork and all those members who put in that extra effort to make club nights a success for the rest of the members.

I urge all the other members to get just that little bit more involved in the running of your club. In my experience it makes belonging to the club a much more interesting and fulfilling experience.



Chairman Jeff Cordery

On the table in November



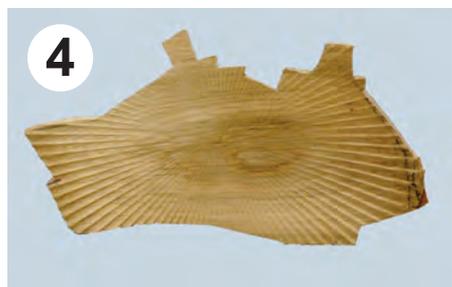
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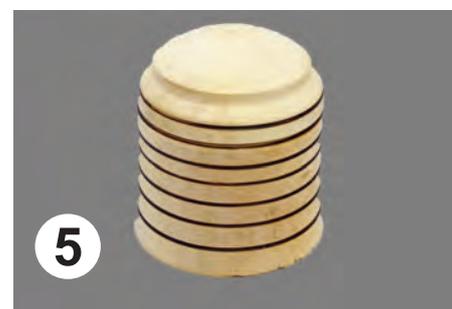
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1: Derek Dowle, sycamore, Rustins finishing oil. 2: Alex Bellringer, Honduras rosewood, Nicaraguan cocobole, unknown! 3: Francois Greeff, spalted cherry, Briwax on sanding sealer. 4: Gordon Cookson, oak. 5: David Curnow, sycamore.

Christmas reminder

The subject for this year's Frank Clarke competition is a Christmas decoration. Last year's winners are asked to bring their platters back at the December meeting.

Alex Bellringer will be demonstrating his pen-making technique. Be sure to grab an early seat for this very interesting show.

E-news deadline

The next club night will be on January 21st. Copy and pictures for the January e-news must be submitted to the editor by January 1st.

Lots more at Christmas

We have a quiz, bring and buy and super raffle. The club will provide a finger buffet and light refreshments but please do not bring any contributions that are perishable.

If you have any comments, corrections, or items to add, please contact e-news editor: ron_grace@btinternet.com

December 2014

Notice of AGM and Open Forum to be held on Wednesday 21st January 2015

The Annual General Meeting of Cheam Woodturners Association will be held on Wednesday 21st January 2015 at 8pm sharp or such other time as the Chairman shall designate. All fully paid up members of the club are entitled to attend and vote.

Apologies for absence to the Hon Secretary please.

If you are NOT able to attend the AGM you can still vote on the resolutions by appointing another paid up member to vote on your behalf.

Please contact davidbuskell@yahoo.com for a proxy form which should be returned by 7th January 2015.

By order of the committee,
David Buskell FCIS
Honorary Secretary

Agenda

- 1: Apologies for absence.
- 2: To receive and adopt the minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday, 15th January 2014.
- 3: To receive and adopt the Chairman's report on the previous year's working.
- 4: To receive and adopt the Honorary Secretary's report for the previous year.
- 5: To receive and adopt the Treasurer's report and statement of accounts covering the financial affairs of the previous year.
- 6: To elect a Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer and three committee members for the following year. (see note below)
- 7: Any other business.

Please note that any item for discussion under item 7 to be forwarded in writing to the Honorary Secretary at: Woodlands, 52 Upper Selsdon Road, South Croydon, Surrey, CR2 8DE by 7th January 2015.

Nomination forms for the officers and committee vacancies are available from the Honorary Secretary on request and will also be available at the December meeting.

The AGM will be followed by an open forum in which members may raise issues for discussion. Prior notification of any topics to be discussed would be appreciated.

For sale

Record CL2 woodturning lathe complete with large bowl turning attachment. Centre height, 6in. Distance between centres 36in. Maximum diameter with headstock swivelled through 90deg. is 18in. Spindle thread 3/4in dia. x 16tpi. Headstock and tailstock bored for 1MT. Record chuck and other tools. A number of woodturning tools and accessories. Dust extractor. Contact Graham Wood on 01372 272077. Lathe with some extras £250
Tools £10 each
Dust extractor £75

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Subs are due....

Membership Secretary Trevor Etherington would love to hear from you in the very near future. Yes, that time of year has come around again and it is time to dig into your wallets for a measly £30 for a whole year's entertainment at Cheam Woodturners.

Please don't disappoint Trevor. He will be around on the 17th, so this will be your opportunity !

Remember: subs not paid, no vote at the AGM.

Remember

The three-hour time limit on Sainsburys parking is still in force. Don't collect a £60 fine!

Your chance for fame!

This space is just waiting for you to post your items for sale, tools that you would like to own (Many members have tools they are never likely to use again on shelves in their workshops) and tricky questions about turning problems! Come on, let's hear from you.

Message from membership sec.

When checking the signing in list I spotted that there were four people who were in attendance but who had not signed in!

They were probably there before me and busy helping with setting up. However, it is

their responsibility to sign in at some stage.

This is not only the issue of attendance for record purposes, but more importantly their signature is needed for roll-call purposes in the event of evacuation.

Trevor Etherington