



Terry Smart suggests using the Acrylic gloss spray lacquer first followed by the satin if required, as the gloss has a harder finish



Chestnut buffing kit

SHORT REVIEW...

October's meeting saw a return of Terry Smart, demonstrating the Chestnut range of wood finishing products.

These products are not sold direct by Chestnut from their website as they believe in supporting their stockists, however he did have the products for sale on the night and appeared to get plenty of custom.

Terry said that finishing should be easy and the most important part, as we all know, is preparation. He sanded down his demonstration piece with a bowl sander, going through the grits and using their Tack cloth to remove dust. The tack cloth should be kept in a sealed jar after opening to prevent drying out. For a finer finish he uses the NyWeb cloths with embedded silicon carbide grit remembering the acronym GROW for the sequence - Green - 400, Red - 600, Orange - 1000, White - non abrasive. A discussion arose about using thinner with the Cellulose sanding sealer, Terry explaining that normally it should not require thinning as it is developed to be used as it is. At most 10-20% could be used except for spalted wood where 50% might be needed. He stated that only one coat of sealer is required otherwise surface crazing might occur sometimes after several months.

Terry demonstrated using Burnishing Cream after sealing, instead of denibbing with NyWeb, although Burnishing Cream can work into any fine scratches. He also reminded us that steel wool can be a fire hazard. He spoke about the various lacquers they sell, explaining that their Melamine lacquer was 'precatylised' (2 parts already mixed together) which dries quickly but takes up to 7 days to cure completely. It is harder wearing than other lacquers and 2 coats should be all that is needed - **do not** shake the tin as this produces bubbles and is unnecessary. This product can be thinned with cellulose thinners if it starts to thicken up or is used over a large area.

He talked about their Microcrystalline Wax which, while appearing to be more expensive than traditional waxes, requires a very small amount, will provide a hard-wearing water-resistant finish and can be used over any other Chestnut products.

Terry finished up by a giving quick review of their buffing system kit which consists of 2 mandrels, which fit on the lathe or in a drill, 3 buffing mops and 3 buffing compounds to be used on the mops. The polish sequence is brown (tripoli) on the hardest mop (don't use this on open grain woods), white on the medium and carnauba on the softest mop (microcrystalline wax can be used instead of carnauba). They also sell domed polishing mops, which helps when polishing the inside of a bowl.

More products than can be mentioned here were demonstrated and discussed - see information on www.chestnutproducts.co.uk.

THIS MONTH...

On 16th November we are looking forward to welcoming **Alan Hazel** who will be demonstrating spindle work. His speciality is lace bobbins but on this occasion he will be showing us how to turn a candlestick and and a lamp with long hole boring.

RAFFLE...

Make sure you buy your tickets for the raffle, a bargain at £1 each. The Star Prize this month is a **Ring tool made by Hamlet Tools**, together with our usual exciting and useful range of prizes such as tools and timber.

We look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 16th November

November 2011

NEWS...

New members

We were very pleased to welcome several new members to the club at the October meeting, this now takes our membership up to 70.

Record Lathe

Those who were at last month's meeting will have seen our new **Record DML 305 lathe and stand** put to use for the first time. As outlined in the October e-shot this will be available to members to use for a one month period (ie from Club meeting to Club meeting) together with tools and chucks. There were no immediate takers for this offer but we are hopeful that some of the newer members who perhaps don't have a lathe of their own yet will be interested in using this to get a taste for woodturning.

if you wish to take advantage of this loan scheme, please let Brian Ash have your details (phone: 0208 642 8108, email: brianash@virginmedia.com). To comply with the Club insurance, the kit has to be signed out and in again each month.

We hope you will take advantage of this unique opportunity to use the Club lathe.

FUTURE SHOWS...

North of England show:

18-20 November 2011 - The North of England Woodworking and Power Tool Show at Hall 1, Great Yorkshire Showground, Harrogate. Harrogate has again attracted all the major manufacturers & retailers, which together with the largest and most diverse range of demonstrators & attractions, offers a great day out for any woodworker & power tool user. Greg Moreton will be demonstrating there.

A FINAL PLEA...

Remember if you have any more pieces made from the St Mary's Oak please bring them to this meeting. They are needed for a church sale being held some time in December.

The pieces for sale can be anything you care to make and items that show indications of the source seem to be popular, e.g. where it was obvious the piece was part of the tenon. It is helpful if some indication of the provenance is included - the dates of the wood are 1883-2010.

REMINDER...

Don't forget to get your entries ready for the Frank Clarke competition at the Christmas Social on 21st December

To remind you again, this year's theme: **Bowls:**

- **Plain** for Beginners,
- **Decorated** for Intermediate
- **Natural edge** for Advanced.

Entry rules include the following:

Each member may enter items in only one category. It should not have won a prize in any other competition previously and must not carry any marks to indicate the maker. The categories are intended for those members who feel they meet one or more of the following guidelines:

Novice/Beginner:

Members who have recently started turning,
Or do not turn regularly,
Or regard themselves as unskilled at turning.

Intermediate:

Members who have turned for some years,
Or turn regularly and often.
Or consider themselves reasonably skilled at turning.

Advanced:

Members who turn professionally,
Or consider themselves very skilled at turning

PRE CHRISTMAS CRAFT SPACES...

Native Tongue in Epsom have ten display stalls available in the run up to Christmas, starting 11th November 2011

Cost: £15 per table per day.

Native Tongue, a community based organization dedicated to helping artists find an audience for their chosen medium, and in co-operation with Green Light Gallery, are opening their space as a Community Arts Café to help promote local craftspeople. They are situated in a good position in Epsom behind the main shopping area.

It is hoped that the venue will be open 7 days a week from Thursday 11th November.

Crafts people and artists are invited to apply for a space, stating the days in which they are interested. Allocation will be made by a selection process including an interview where a people will be invited to show and talk about their work.

Please apply in the first instance via e-mail to info@greenlightgallery.co.uk giving a brief outline of your work and history, and a picture sample. They will get back to you with more detailed information and contracts.

We look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 16th November

ONLINE OFFERS...



Record Power have selected a range of products to offer the ultimate choice of high quality machinery and accessories at unbeatable prices. All woodworking areas and budgets are catered for in this year's special deals, from small hand saws suitable for fine work right up to industrial bandsaws and heavy duty lathes. To see the offers and who the participating stockists are click the illustration above to go to their offers page or phone 01246 561520.

SHOP CORNER...



All change at Sittingbourne

Once through those automatic doors, it's "All Change" at Axminster in Sittingbourne. If you've visited before you'll be familiar with the central pay/enquiries counter, stock around the walls and machinery scattered about the showroom floor.

Now, they have posh new display units about 12-15 foot high set out both along the walls and in bays, goods are categorised and grouped together (plumbing, woodturning, abrasives etc) and there are more machines out on display.

The pay/enquiries desk is now on the right hand side of the door as you come in.

I think the change-over must have happened recently. I had to ask for help finding a couple of items and the staff there were not sure what display areas the new location codes related to, Still, I got everything I went there for.

Overall impression: the showroom now looks more like a trade showroom rather than the friendly hobbyist appeal it had before. There are certainly more machines about to look at (and buy). No doubt we'll all get used to the new layout and grouping of products as we visit more often - if not, we can always order from the catalogue!

David Buskell

CRAFT FAIR...

RHS Wisley are holding the next of the Craft in Focus events on 24-28 November, admission £7.00 (RHS members free).



This is one of the largest Craft in Focus events held in floored, heated marquees adjacent to the car park. Not a massive amount of wood but plenty of other creative output to inspire (and spend money on!).

EXHIBITIONS...



If you're visiting London, or looking for some new inspiration The 'Power of Making' is a V&A and Crafts Council exhibition at the V&A Museum, celebrating the role of making in our lives with an eclectic selection of over 100 exquisitely crafted objects, ranging from a life-size crochet bear to a ceramic eye patch, a fine metal flute to dry stone walling.

The free exhibition is on until the 2nd January 2012 and whilst it doesn't contain any woodturning it is an exhibition about the breadth and depth of craft's presence in modern life.

Whilst you are there you can browse around for extra inspiration including the recent acquisitions of turned wood in the museum.

The Sarah Myerscough Gallery has a forthcoming Contemporary Craft exhibition running from the start of December into January 2012. Sarah Myerscough Fine Art is the



only UK gallery to specialise in promoting international turned and carved wood artists mainly from America and Europe. All the exhibiting artists have been selected for their fine craftsmanship, international status and innovative approach to the material. Year on year they continue to develop the Turned Wood collection in the gallery. The exhibition is free and the gallery is situated at 15-16 Brooks Mews London W1K 4DS

If you have any comments, corrections, or items to add, please contact e-shot editor Hilary - hsinclair@blueyonder.co.uk

We look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 16th November