



Cheam Woodturners Association

Associated with the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain
Twinned with Central Oklahoma Woodturners Association



Turned by Richard Crook

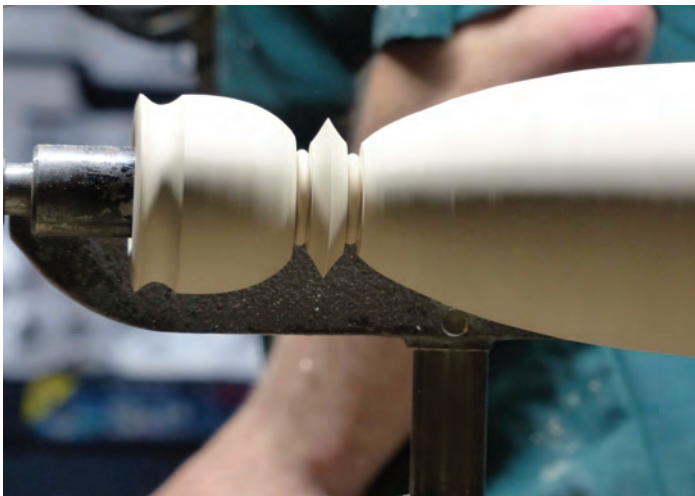
August 2014

Two into One

by Trevor Etherington

Mark Baker, well known editor of *Woodturning* magazine and a popular demonstrator was our entertainer in July.

To start, he said his demonstrations would be in two halves — spindle (tea light holder) and bowl/platter which can be joined to make another item.



Tea light holder: taking shape under expert hands

Chosen timber for the tea light was sycamore, some 112mm square and 400mm long. In planning, is worth considering what can be bought at the likes of IKEA and thus embark upon something that is not copying items that are mass produced. The selling point being that the product is unique.

The timber was held between the tailstock and a toothed drive centre, a spigot formed and securely held in the chuck. Clean down to a cylinder.

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



Mark in jovial mood during his demonstration

There is always more risk of a catch if the timber being cut is square or has bark edges. Cut at 45 degrees to clean up.

Reverse and hold in chuck jaws with tailstock for security. Cut for candle insert by either drilling and

Continued on page 2



Rapt attention: members enjoy Mark's demo

We look forward to seeing you all on August 20

Page 1

cleaning out or end cut. Fix insert with silicone.

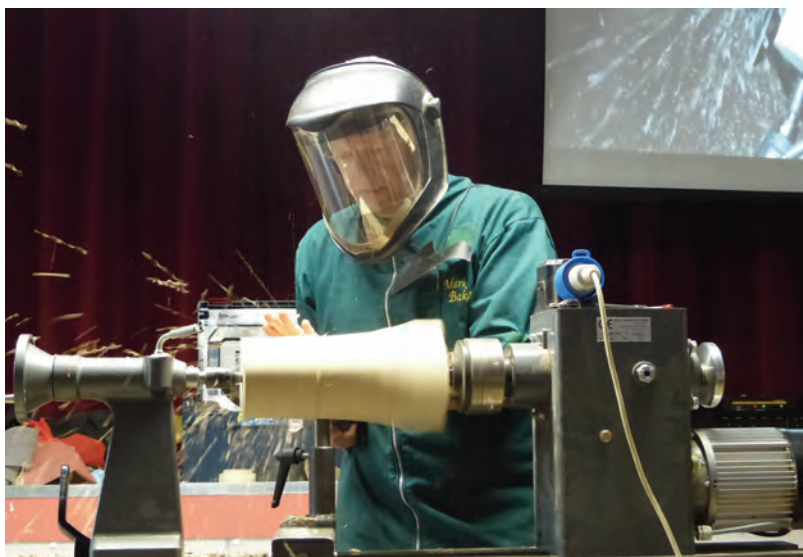
Hold hollowed end with a point centre while shaping, shape to have mass at base for stabilisation. With regard to shape it is useful to look for ideas in ceramics and glass work.

Mark chose to cut a thistle head *Chips fly: Mark tackles some serious rounding shape.*

Feature beads were cut using a beading tool with flute down. Press in and raise handle to avoid tearing timber. Beads can be cut in or raised.

Mark suggested using blunt ended bristle discs to clean out deep cut features, turning at 1,000 rpm.

For the second piece, Mark also used sycamore cut roughly to a disc. The timber was held with either a drive centre or with a faceplate fitted with bolts ground to a point to



give a grip. This disc support should be as wide as possible. Hold firm with tailstock. Employ a pull cut using a swept-back gouge. Work from the centre out cutting on the lower wing.

Form a spigot which ideally should be one-third of the diameter to give best support.

To create interest, add a series of equally spaced beads. Cut out

between the beads to create raised beads, using parting tool.

Clean up micro tears with bevel edge scraper to create a series of convex/concave faces.

Always steer clear of patterning on the inside of the bowl to avoid creating dust and dirt traps.

Bring the two items together. Consider contrasting curves for more effective end result.



Tea light holder with timber platter

If you have any comments, corrections, or items to add, please contact e-news

Very important notice!

Sainsburys is having work done to its top parking deck and has imposed a three-hour limit on its car park. This is being monitored by a private company which will impose a £60 fine on anyone who overstay.

On the show table in July



Walnut: presented to David Buskell at the WoW Swap in Phoenix by Jim Beckwith

PLEASE NOTE

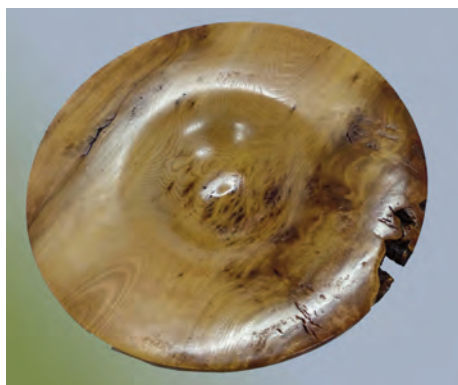
The rule (introduced last month) places a limit of one item per member in the e-news.

So this is the last time more than one will be accepted.

RG



This very unusual exhibit, above, using a variety of woods, is from Roger Marsden. Not exactly a great example of turning, but it was designed as a centrepiece for Roger's daughter's wedding reception



Roger Marsden, burr elm



Bob Higgins, cherry



Peter Westermann, ash



Bob Higgins, oak



Derek Dowle, fruit laburnum, stalk oak



Ian Billett, horse chestnut



Richard Crook, beech, rattle



Alex Bellringer, elm

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

Epsom Common day

Stalwarts Trevor Etherington, Richard Hoodless and Chris Barrett were very early starters at the Epsom Common show day — making your editor look sluggish as he arrived after the gazebo had been erected, tables set up and many exhibits in place.

Our stand was, by request, at one end of the row of stands, so that we were able to use our electricity generator and therefore run the lathe — as you can see from the pictures.

Officially the show started at noon and, being on the end, we were among the first to be

visited by the Mayor and Mayoress of Epsom.

Our display attracted a fair amount of interest throughout the show, with sales going well — even one item bought by the Mayoress!

Our pictures tell the story.

Ron Grace



1: Richard Hoodless sets up the demo lathe. 2: Epsom's Mayor and Mayoress visit our stand. 3, 6 & 7: Interior of the gazebo. 4 & 5: Leonie Short of the Lower Mole Countryside Management Project gets a little elder help and turns very well on her pole lathe. 8: Is Trevor Etherington practising lampshade making?



The Best Way to Learn by Ron Brown

The best way to learn about something is not necessarily the easiest way. Here's a thought "If you want to learn about something, volunteer to teach someone else about that subject." Yes, I do practise what I preach. My advice over the past couple of decades has always been that the best way to learn something in-depth is to teach others about it.

You may just want to teach one or two other people in your own workshop. You could volunteer to teach a class at your woodturning club, your local school or other civic group.

Why is this such a good way to learn, especially when you're starting at or near a zero knowledge base? Because the preparation necessary is the same whether you already know about a subject or not.

Owing to time constraints, you must prepare examples at all stages of completion, usually accompanied by written instructions even if they are in the form of an outline. You must prepare a list of all the tools and supplies needed for the project and be able to present things in a logical sequence. In order to avoid embarrassment you will have to practise enough to become proficient yourself, you will have an audience. At the end of your teaching session, presentation, or demonstration you will know the subject. This is a kind of enforced discipline. We are actually capitalising on that age old motivator; fear of embarrassment or rejection.

As I write this I have finished all the preparation for a local turning club demonstration. My subject is Mason jar lids on your wood turning lathe. I have posted my class handout along with a fairly comprehensive photo album on my website www.RonBrownsbest.com under the Free Downloads section. I am making it publicly available as another free service to my customers. Although I have made lots of Mason jar lids, I still had to go through all of the preparation described above. It was good for me and I think you'll enjoy it also.

Mason jars are very similar to Kilner jars which are used for preserving food. As I understand it, the main difference is that most Kilner jars have glass lids, while Mason jars usually have metal ones. No doubt somebody will educate me on this?

Just Google Kilner and/or Mason and you will see that there are hundreds of variations of both types.

Ron Grace



Flying the flag

by Trevor
Etherington



The club was represented at two popular local events recently. The Ashted Village day on 14th June (see picture), organised by the Rotary Club of Ashted, and the Epsom Common Day at Stamford Green, Epsom, organised by the Epsom Common Association.

I was the organiser for both events for the club and was supported by Brian Chaves, Richard Hoodless and Chris Barrett at Ashted and by Richard and Chris (encouraged by Ron Grace) at Epsom.

Both events were very well attended with the weather playing a large part in encouraging a large turnout. Not only did we display and sell goods but the members took turns to demonstrate — a sure way to attract attention and interest.

The Epsom event was opened by the mayor and attended by the local MP, Chris Grayling, who is also Justice Minister. Both stopped to chat at some length.

The events created interest and a good number of club leaflets were handed out. Let's hope this generates more members.

There is an apparent reluctance on the part of

members to get involved with these events. By way of encouragement it is worth recording that both events were quite profitable. Ashted generated about £300 and Epsom amazingly £600. These figures being a combination of the takings on the day and orders placed. In both cases



Chris, Brian and Richard pose for cameraman Trevor

the participants donated 10% to the organising body.

So come on, let's have a broader expression of interest from the membership for any forthcoming events which will be announced at the monthly meetings as well as in the monthly e-news.

We are certainly not unique

Reaction to Jeff Cordery's plea for volunteers to become committee members

While waiting to start his demonstration, Mark Baker was listening with interest to Jeff's club announcements and commented that Cheam is not unique in having difficulty encouraging members to take up committee roles.

Mark has a broad knowledge of the turning scene and said that of the 121 clubs, some 25% are struggling to get new committee members — some are on the brink of closure when ill-health or relocations mean the current committee

members are not going to be available in future.

Now it is not being suggested that Cheam is in this position, yet, but it is a truism to say: "No committee, no club". We have the situation where a number of the committee members have served for a considerable number of years and, not unreasonably, are looking to stand down to allow new blood to take on committee roles and to take the club forward with fresh ideas.

In standing down, the individuals stress that they would still be prepared to play an active part if asked.

So the request is: please think very carefully and put your name forward if you feel you can help.

Thank you.
Trevor Etherington



Rolly over here

As you may know, New Zealander Rolly Monroe is in the UK on a mini-tour ahead of his trip on the Norwegian Woodturning Cruise.

Cheam pitched to have him for an all-day masterclass but we were not successful.

One of our local clubs, East Surrey Woodturners, managed to get Rolly for their normal club slot and I went along to watch.

Rolly started the evening with about 25 minutes of slides and commentary and then went on to the lathe. He turned a small ash hollow form and after the break, put a wet log of sycamore on the lathe. The result was the thin-wall vase you see below.

There were about 30 ESW members and 20 guests (Cheam, Ashford, Middlesex and other clubs). Some of

the guests were at our Jimmy Clewes masterclass. ESW members paid £5 and guests paid £10 as it was a once in a lifetime special event. Rolly has been in the UK at least three times before this.

ESW's hall is small, so not much room to get good shots but the two attached show Rolly and the two pieces he made.

I'm happy to share my thoughts on whether or not the evening was value for money with you personally.

David Buskell



Danger dust attack

Gordon Cookson, a man very much aware of the dangers that lurk in every workshop, has submitted a page extracted from the *Furniture and Cabinet Making* magazine, issue 214, January this year.

"What does 5mg of dust look like?" is the first question posed — and then goes on, in simple language, to explain and illustrate the answer.

A large portion of the article deals with personal protection and hygiene — something which we all should take great care over, especially if one wishes to live long and healthily.

Do visit the website <http://www.woodworkersinstitute.com/page.asp?p=2800> where there is a lot of useful information for woodworkers.

August evening

Is time attacking some of your favourite pieces? Refinishing to bring them back to life is the subject for the evening.

Chairman Jeff Cordery will bring along his hollowing tools for members to learn about and use.

Is the camera system we use on club evenings a puzzle? Come and learn all about it.

Reaching out across the pond

by David Buskell

I hope you all took the opportunity to look at the UK/USA table at the last club night. On show were photos of the timber we gave to Central Oklahoma Woodturners and their gifts to us.

The turned items from COWA gathered a lot of interest and comment, especially the small finials/open forms. The child's rattle caused a few shaking heads as members worked out how it had been fitted together – thanks to Bob Jarrett for sending us this piece.

We have been emailing Michael Reggio, Dick Webber and Bob Jarrett over the past few months as they are our main contacts at COWA.

It is always better to put a face to the name and so while I was in Phoenix for the AAW Symposium, we arranged to meet. The photos in this e-news are of my first meeting with Michael Reggio and some of his members, taken after a long day in the Phoenix sun — it was around 105 degrees all day!

Later, during the symposium, I took the opportunity to check out the Flutemaster booth in the tradeshow. Flutemaster is Dick Webber's company and I saw him demonstrating the system.

I also introduced Michael to Mark Baker who was on the GMC stand in the Tradeshow.

Over the course of the next three days, we seemed to be constantly bumping into Central Oklahoma members — even in the lift in the hotel!

We can now look forward to building on our relationship with Central Oklahoma over the next months.

The AAW Symposium Handbook was on the table to give you a flavour of what the symposium offers the woodturner: bowls, spindles, faceplate turning, plus tuition, critique, photography and safety, to name a few. It was good to see our old friends Jimmy Clewes and Richard Findley demonstrating. Doug Fisher gave excellent demos on colouring and perhaps one day we can tempt him to come over to Cheam if he is in the UK.

The instant gallery was as incredible as usual — I do hope Richard Findlay took time out to have a look at the work there, between his demos.

The AAW does a lot for charity and this year we supported Seeds for Autism and Beads of Courage projects by supplying bowls and boxes and buying some that had been donated by other turners.

No comment on the symposium would be complete without mentioning the legendary WoW (World of Woodturners) Brown Bag swaps. 50 people, all of whom bring in a piece of turned work, place it on the table and take a ticket. We all then wait anxiously for our number to be called, gather up our piece and move to meet the person who has been drawn to swap with us. This year it was Jim Beckwith from New Jersey and his walnut dish (see page 3) was on the club table. I gave Jim a Chilean laurel burr square-edge bowl in return.

We ought to try this swap idea again, perhaps this time extend it to include our honorary members at COWA. Maybe an idea for 2015?

The AAW symposium is a great opportunity to expand your woodturning skills in the broadest sense. If you get a chance to attend, it is worth the trip.



*Left: our UK/USA table.
Below: our presents to
COWA. Right: Michael
Reggio and David Buskell
reach across the pond*

