



Cheam Woodturners Association

Associated with the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

Twinned with Central Oklahoma Woodturners Association

Cheam Woodturners Association Newsletter Issue number 055

August 2018

For the August Meeting



On 15th August we welcome Ed Oliver woodturning Artist. R.P.T.

In November 2013 Ed discovered Woodturning and what a life changing thing this was to discover. In 2016 he was awarded the AWGB Approved Tutor badge. This has led to him getting involved with the AWGB youth training program, he ran the first of these courses at his studio in February 2017. On the 21st of September 2017 he was accepted on to the Register of Professional Turners. This is a great honour as there are only around 200 people registered in the UK today.

Ed started his woodturning at home in a converted garage workshop. In 2015, he had a fully equipped studio built at his home in Great Chart, Kent. It's from here that he now teaches the art of woodturning and enhancing your work. He also travels around various clubs demonstrating the art of woodturning.

This is not his first foray with wood, he started his working life as a furniture maker, so has always had a love of wood, but woodturning just has something else about it. Spending time with some of the country's leading woodturners Ed has learned many new techniques. He took up teaching woodturning to pass these skills on to others.

Ed's work is quite varied. He loves wood and it's natural beauty but has also found that enhancing the wood with colours, carving and texturing has opened up many new avenues in his woodturning. Because of this he describes himself as a woodturning artist.

Ed is also a strong supporter of the Woodturning community, getting to know people in person and online who share the passion for this creative and rewarding craft. Nowadays he sells his work via galleries, craft shows and at his home studio and is happy to undertake commissions for people.

Visit his web site: www.edoliver.co.uk or <https://www.oliverswoodturning.co.uk> for tools and supplies.

CHEAM WOODTURNERS COMMITTEE FOR 2018

Chairman: DEREK DOWLE.

Secretary: DAVID WHITING.

Treasurer: JOHN FENN.

Member 1: DAVID BUSKELL.

Member 2: CHRIS TAYLOR.

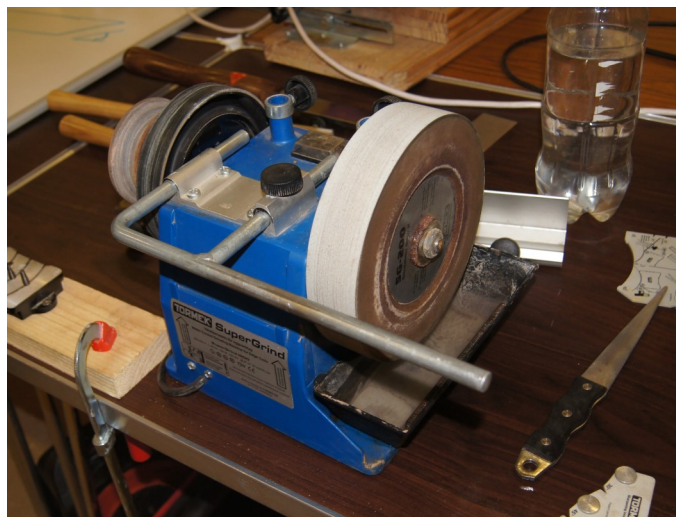
Member 3: JAMIE SHEARS.

Member 4: CHRIS BARRETT.

The July demonstration was swapped because of a mix up.

Jamie Shears arranged an evening on sharpening instead. A good turn out of members attended to listen to Jamie Shears, Chris Taylor, David Buskell and Chris Barrett explain their various sharpening equipment.

First up was Jamie Shears who explained his Tormec kit. Jamie showed us this impressive system.



Jamie stated he purchased his **Tormek 1200 Super Grind** off ebay many years ago for little over £100 including all the jigs. He was taught how to sharpen tools freehand on a grinder by Greg Moreton, however he did not have the skill Greg had and was impatient to get turning and didn't want to watch his expensive tools turn into short stumps. Jamie also does other woodworking and his shop gets very dusty and has seen how a dust cloud can turn into a fireball by a stray spark.

In summary his requirements were:

- ◆ Must be safe – no sparks / heat
- ◆ Repeatable and Predictable
- ◆ Quick

The Tormek met all these requirements, however it was very expensive, especially with the jigs. At the time the T3 and T7 models had just been released and Jamie managed to pick up a 2nd hand 1200 Super Grind model (similar to T3 & T4) from another woodturner that was retiring from Woodturning via ebay.

Some features of the Tormek are:

- ◆ Water cooled / wet grinding
- ◆ No heat or stray sparks
- ◆ No PPE required either
- ◆ The rate of material removal has been optimised and is easy to control
- ◆ The abrasive wheel is easily dressed and can be regressed for faster material removal and back again
- ◆ Easy to setup and use jigs
- ◆ Loads of help available
- ◆ The additional attached stropping wheel polishes the bevel and cutting edges and makes the edges sharper and stay sharper for longer
- ◆ It also included a burr removal wheel for flutes (*I'm not sure if this makes much of a difference for woodturning tools, maybe carving tools?*)
- ◆ Does not take up much space in Jamie's workshop and can be located just to the right of his lathe for convenience

Some of the downsides are:

- ◆ Expensive initial outlay
- ◆ Uses water and you will need to make sure the Tormek sits on a rubber mat and you keep all your tools dry and free from rust
- ◆ The abrasive wheel will wear down eventually (Jamie replaced his after 4 years from 2nd hand)
- ◆ The smaller Tormek model does not have a choice of wheels whereas the larger model does (black stone / Japanese stone)

Some tips for using the Tormek:

- ◆ Do not leave the wheel immersed in the water reservoir, it will cause the wheel to wear unevenly.
- ◆ Mark the settings on the tool handle for quick reference
- ◆ Jamie places a rare earth magnet in a small water tight plastic zip lock bag, placed in the water reservoir to catch all the metal filings and helps keep the wheel clean
- ◆ For flat bladed tools Jamie touches up the edge with a diamond card at least twice before using the Tormek again.
- ◆ For roughing work Jamie is not that bothered by a clean finish, but for the finishing cuts he will sharpen and strop on the Tormek for the best smooth and clean cut, which means less sanding – he hates sanding!

Next was the **Robert Sorby ProEdge** brought in by Chris Taylor.

Chris stated he purchased this system because he finds it extremely easy to use. He was also taught sharpening by Greg Moreton and found when starting woodturning he did not have the skills to sharpen freehand using a grinding wheel. As Chris hates sharpening, he found all the angles he needs on the Pro-Edge, which is quick to set up and because of the belt system sharpens very efficiently. Tools are sharpened quickly and very accurately meaning more time can be spent turning wood as opposed to sharpening tools.



The V block stands on the angled platform, leaves no room for error. Bowl gouges and roughing gouges can be sharpened at whatever angle is chosen, repeatedly and exactly the same every time. Chris has found that once you decide on the angles you sharpen the tool, you develop your skills around that tool. Chris discussed quenching tools during the demonstration. Although he uses water to cool the tools, they are never hot enough to require quenching.

The other useful attachment is an angled skew jig for use with skew chisels.

The last attachment is the Pro-Edge fingernail profile kit which enables you to repeat the same grind exactly, every time.

There are now many different types of belt from ceramic, trizact and zirconium. Chris has had this system for 6 years and is still using the ceramic belts that he bought years ago.

Most tools are High speed steel, if the edge is sharpened and goes blue it should not be quenched but cooled.

If sharpening Carbon steels and the edge turns blue, it should be quenched and ground away because the steel has been softened.



David Buskell brought in his **Creusen DS7150 TS grinder**.

The jigs are the **Oneway Wolverine system** (bought from Les Thorne a good few years ago!)

The other bit of kit is the **Creusen/Koch Honing system DS 7150T** bought at a DMT sale.

The grinder has been updated with new jig (from The Toolpost) and 2 new slides from my local blacksmith.



Why did David buy Creusen? He wanted something that would last him for a while (which it has) bearing in mind it was sold to him at the last show Frank Clarke did for Axminster. At the time Axminster were promoting their Performance range and there was no contest compared to the Creusen stuff.

David says *"I guess it's like all tool purchases - you get what you pay for."*

David showing his sharpening skills wearing eye protection.



Questions were asked about the 40/40 grind. Stuart Batty has videos on u tube and also under VIMEO.com which you don't have to subscribe to explaining all about this type of grind.

Chris Barrett purchased a '**Perform**' sharpening jig some ten years ago. It has a coarse and a fine grinding wheel. It is for dry grinding and the wheel speed is quite high so has to be used sensitively.

He has made three adaptations as follows;

- ◆ Changed the fine grinding wheel to a larger 42mm wide wheel.
- ◆ Added an adjustable platform for the fine grinding wheel which enables the user to adjust the closeness and height in relation to the wheel
- ◆ Mounted the jig on a platform which is 12 inches above bench height (Chris's bench height is 28 inches). The platform has a lower platform for keeping tools and accessories tidy. The reason for making these changes is that it enables him to sight the contact of the tool being sharpened against the grinding wheel (which should be off when sighting). This helps Chris feel more in control and the wider fine grinding wheel helps as does the proximity of an anglepoise lamp. These are obviously personal preferences



All the above sharpening systems vary in price considerably.

Each turner will choose a system based on their own skills but what ever system is chosen if you can repeat a grind you like your turning will improve.

Don't heat up the cutting edge if it goes blue it will not keep the edge for long.

Using diamond cards on the tool will make the edge last longer before you have to return to the grinder.



Trend produce a useful sharpening kit with a double sided credit size 600fine and 300 coarse grit with a useful DVD by James Barry called sharpening made easy.

On the July show table



Best on show was John Wood for this mahogany and black wood box made from a table leg obtained at the last club night.



Derek Dowle with his Walnut Shawl pin finished with sealer and wax



1



2

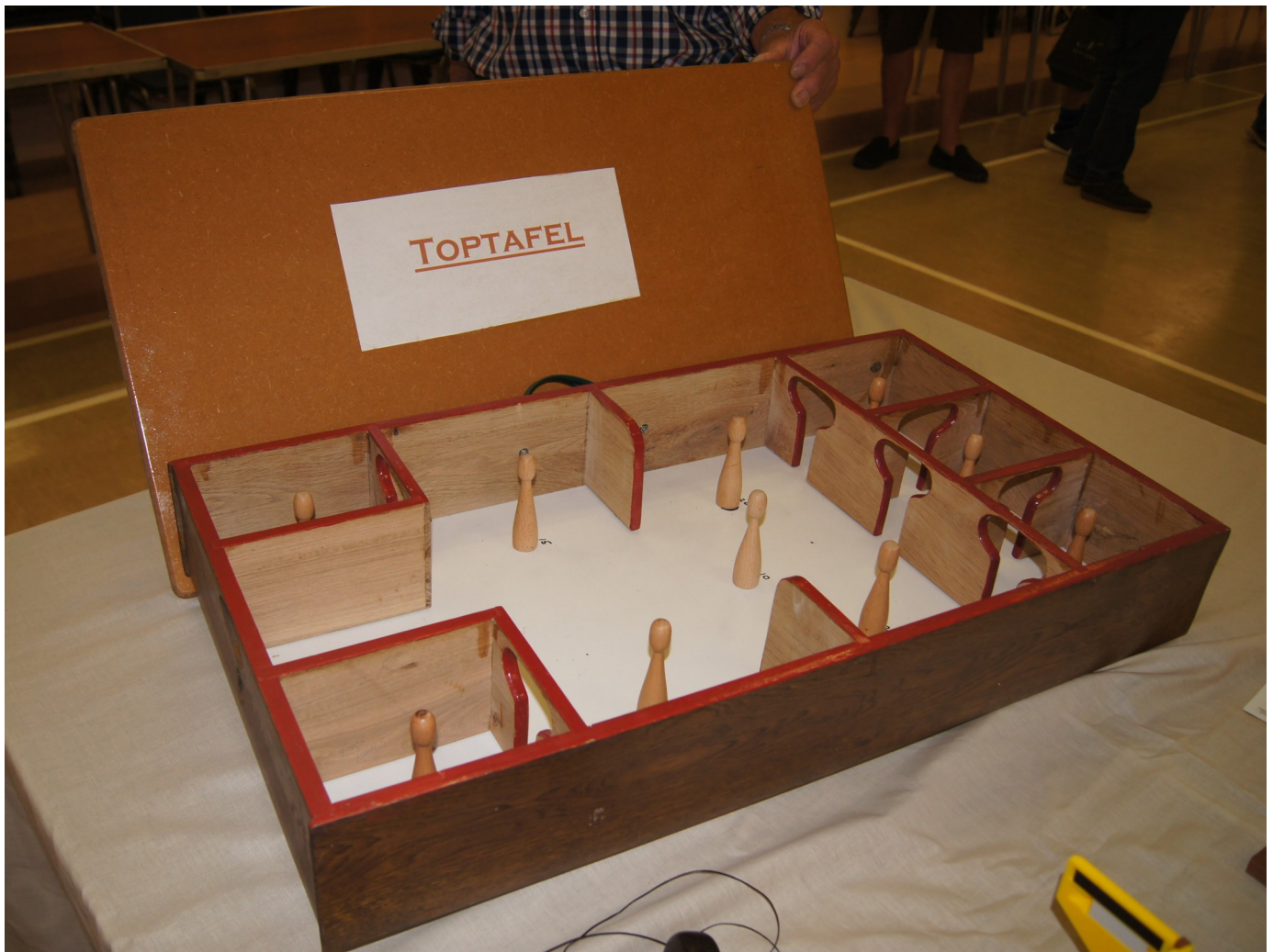


3

1. Small segmented spinning top made from a leadwood centre with oak surround. By Chris Taylor.
2. A large segmented spinning top from beech and padauk by Jamie Shears finished with microcrystalline wax.
3. A selection of spinning tops by David Jones for his Toptafel game.

David Jones brought in his Toptafel table that he had made, it is a game primarily popular in America, France, Belgium and Holland although it probably first originated in England or France. The correct name for the game has not been ascertained. In North America it is often just called "Skittles" which confuses matters since that is the name of the much older European ancestor. Other possibilities are "Racketeer" and "Devil amongst the Tinkers" but whatever the name, the game can be lots of fun albeit almost totally down to pure luck. Being a simple traditional game without a governing body, variations of equipment and rules abound. Where there is doubt, the locally played rules should always apply.

David showed us how to spin the top and then guide it around by tilting the table to guide the spinning top to knock over the skittles.



A new part of the news letter will be given up for a tips corner where members can pass on any useful tips they think may be of help to other members. It is kicked off this month with tips for drilling with saw tooth or Forstner bits. If you think you have found something you wish to share then email :- chris.r.taylor@hotmail.com

Spinning top challenge



Only three members made spinning tops to challenge Jamies' winning top from last month.

David Jones obviously put great thought into the challenge and produced a Lignum vitae top which span for 2 minutes and 25 seconds blowing away any other challenges.



2018 Programme

August 15th	:- Ed Oliver
Sept 19th	:- Stewart Furini
Oct 17th	:- Pat O'Connell
Nov 21st	:- Brian Cockerill
Dec 12th	:- Xmas Social and Frank Clarke Competition

**Deadline for the
Sept issue of the
e-newsletter is
August 31st**

If you have any article or
information you would like
included in the e-news.

Contact: Chris Taylor

chris.r.taylor@hotmail.com

August tip of the month from Richard Hoodless

Saw tooth bits and Forstner bits are guided by the outer circular cutter and the two blades between this outer ring do the cutting of the wood so they are not very efficient at removing wood quickly. To overcome this you need to drill large diameter holes in stages so that the bit does not have much wood to remove. If you try drilling large holes in one go with a large bit the bit will quickly over heat and destroy the cutting edges.

To drill large holes (say 2" or 50mm diameter) with a saw tooth bit first drill in with the bit to a depth of about 1/8" or 3mm. Replace the saw tooth bit with the largest diameter twist drill say 1/2" (12mm) or 5/8" (15mm) that you have and drill to the depth of hole that you require. Replace the twist drill with a 1 1/4" (30mm) diameter saw tooth bit and drill to the depth of hole required. Follow this using a 1 3/4" (44mm) diameter saw tooth bit. Finally drill with the 2" (50mm) diameter bit which will be guided by the 1/8" (3mm) deep cut you made at the beginning.

Please note the December meeting is being brought forward one week to the 12th December due to Christmas commitments.