



Ryedale Woodturners

News Bulletin 11, 20 March 2022

Hello all

Hands On evening Thursday 17 March

This extra evening proved to be very successful, despite Covid yet again causing us to modify our plans – Steve Cooper who was to bring a lathe and demonstrate testing positive on the morning of the event. We send him our best wishes for a quick recovery. Thanks to Keith Harte for calling at Steve's and picking up the lathe. Thanks also to Phil Coe for standing in at short notice to man the lathe during the evening.

We had 5 lathes running, and a number of members genuinely "hands on" under the watchful eye of more experienced club members. There was also a "have a go" pyrography table, and Bob Ingram putting in a mammoth chisel sharpening stint for people throughout the night. There were 29 in attendance, including some guests new to the club. Four people signed up as new members, which more than covered the rental cost for this free event. This takes us to 48 members for this year, our best since 2015.

Many thanks to Geoff Walker for organising the event, and for refreshments on the evening. Also to Lance, Keith, Phil and Martyn for supervising the lathes, and Bob for putting his nose to the grindstone.

If people would like us to mount similar extra evenings, please let us know and we can work on this.

It was good to meet a fellow wood collector, Martin, who has now joined the club. He brought along his collection, currently standing at 40 turned timbers. I look forward to arranging some timber blank swaps with him which will increase both our collections. Lance, who also collects timbers, chipped in by showing us some of his collection, in the form of chisel handles. The Brazilian tulipwood was particular beautiful, as was a pau rosa handle.

Pyrography Training Session Monday 4 April 10am – 1pm

This event is now booked up, with 10 people attending. A reminder to participants if you haven't already done so to let either me or Geoff know whether you can bring a pyrography machine with you, and whether you are coming with us to the New Inn for lunch.

Gallery additions

Phill Armes had a go at an emerging bowl, inspired by John Whiteley's impromptu demonstration in February. Photo attached. *Phill is not quite happy with it – the bowl is 3"x3" and has a few issues, After doing the outside, I didn't quite get the inside central. Good learning curve but going into the lessons learnt box. I didn't finish it fully.* It is good to see members trying out examples from demonstrations.

John Whiteley sent pictures of two "crotch bowls". Attached.

Pedestal bowl

Ian Turner took the pedestal bowl made by Dennis Wake home to finish. Dennis has donated it to the club for us to put in our next sale. Photo attached.

Chairman's Challenge

A couple of people asked when the Chairman's Challenge from February is to be judged. John suggests the May meeting as the target, as he may not be back from holiday for the April meeting. I wasn't at the meeting when this was set, so will not be taking part in the competition, but I think it is to do with some silver birch and making a thin walled vase.

Scampston Chestnut

Members who took some pieces of chestnut back in December will remember that it was given away free, with the one condition that some pieces would be turned with a possibility of mounting a display at Scampston Hall. Before I contact Scampston Hall, it would be good to get an indication of what might be available for show. If people could bring along anything made to the next meeting, or send in a photograph, or email me to tell me your plans for this wood, this would be much appreciated. If people are wondering what to make, feel free to contact me and I will make some suggestions. Cutting large chunks up and turning smaller pieces is possibly a good solution to dealing with the part seasoned wood and limiting the potential for large pieces to crack. John Whiteley can advise on turning wet timber, having done a lot of this over the years. Colin still has some pieces of chestnut available – let me know if you would like some.

New to woodturning?

At the hands on night on Thursday I was asked if there was a good introduction to woodturning book available. There are two that spring to mind, that I bought when I started and still refer to on occasions.

Richard Raffan *Turning Wood*. Look for the revised and updated version (2015)

Keith Rowley *Woodturning: A Foundation Course* (1999, revised 2015 with DVD)

These are still in print, or you can find copies on second hand websites – eBay or AbeBooks have copies for £3 - £8. There are of course many more versions (recommendations from other members welcome). **Woodturning** magazine published monthly is also a very good source of information and ideas, and regularly runs articles aimed at beginners.

Club equipment

A two page summary of our equipment loan scheme is attached to this bulletin. Basically, in return for storage, equipment can be borrowed initially for a six-month period, with the potential for extension indefinitely.

As well as the 3 lathes we now have available for loan, I have added a sharpening system to the list of equipment. This is a Record double grindstone with red and white wheels, a Tru-Grind jig attached for the white wheel, and a Veritas adjustable angle table on the red wheel. There is an instruction manual available for the Tru-Grind system. Photo attached. Contact me if interested.