



Ryedale Woodturners

News Bulletin 16 - 20 April 2024

Hello all

Dates for the diary

Advance notice of a "Celebratory Day" at Turners Retreat, Saturday 8 June 2024, 9.30 – 4pm. Celebrating 25 years of trading as Turners Retreat.

Free entry, free parking. Special in-store offers. Special guest demonstrators. Refreshments available.

If you have never been, it is a bit of a drive, but well worth a visit.



Additional Thursday club evenings.

23 May Hands on beginners night, Snainton Village Hall.

20 June Pyrography night – presentation and hands on pyrography, Snainton Village Hall.

More details to follow from Geoff Walker, and in future weekly bulletins.

Sharpening systems

I know a number of you are looking out for second hand Pro Edge sharpening systems – I keep hoping they will crop up in garage clearances and I can sell them on for £200 rather than the £550 new price.

I notice that Axminster have brought out their own version of this system. £600 for the basic version, but really you need the full "Ultimate Professional Edge package" to get the best out of it – retailing at £890! A high price, but it looks more adaptable, more robust, easier to adjust and variable speed, compared to the Sorby Pro-Edge. Like they have looked at Sorby's and said "what can we do to improve it?"

Do let me know if anyone buys one. All very tempting!



Ian Ethell demonstration

A write-up with photos is now available on the Ryedale Woodturners website at [Ryedale Woodturners. Ian Ethell demonstration](https://ryedalewoodturners.co.uk/ian-ethell-demonstration/), in addition to the YouTube video at <https://youtu.be/tZs7FoHtmPU>. mentioned last week.

Cracks in wood

Cracks almost inevitably occur at times, particularly in larger wood blanks, and especially in pieces where the pith is still present. I was talking to Andy about this – see his lamp below – which led me to thinking about ways to tackle the issue.

Small cracks can be filled with sawdust and then thin CA glue applied. If the wood is not quite seasoned it will probably still crack open wider. There is black superglue available which mimics the black lines in spalted wood. Larger cracks could be filled with something like Milliput, or epoxy putty.

A crack can be left as a feature, and attention can be drawn to it by stitching. You could use string, cord, or leather, which will be decorative rather than functional. You could use copper or brass wire, or staples (large ones like you see in packing boxes), which might hold a crack together.

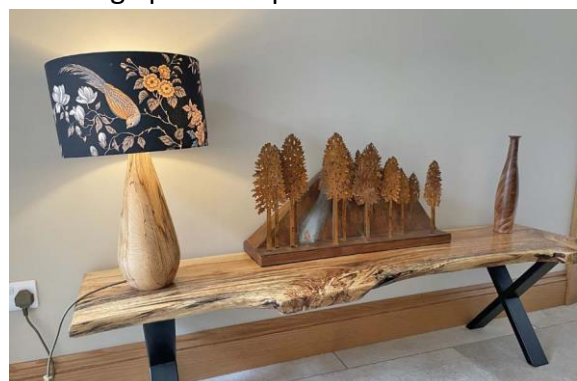
You could use butterfly inserts to make a strong joint that will prevent further cracking and provide a decorative feature.

Does anyone have any examples or other ideas?



Gallery

Andy McLaughlin has made a lovely table lamp from a large piece of spalted beech.



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