

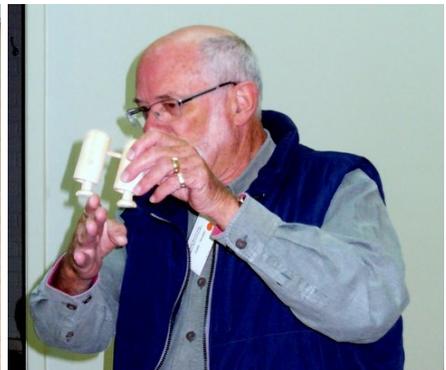
HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC.

Established 1983

NEWSLETTER JULY 2018

Thirteen members were welcomed to our Queen's Birthday long weekend meeting on what was also an unusually cold Saturday. Good to see committee men John Edwards (back 3 weeks after his hip replacement) and Bert after a holiday in Europe. Colin Hunter had also returned from an O/S holiday and had some interesting observations as did Bert about wood and turning in the northern hemisphere. Lindsay remains with health problems and was an apology.

Housekeeping involved projection and the Shed's 65 inch Smart TV etc with wifi etc soon to be installed, plus the offer of a 40 inch TV available for the woodturners, the WWW Show on Friday to Sunday 19-22 July as is the North Shore Craft Group's 61st Annual Exhibition and Sale adjacent to Bunnings at Thornleigh and we still need a trainer for the first Saturday of each month. Thanks also to Elwyn for a stash of honey dippers.



For Information Exchange Nick spoke at length of his journey with fixing colour printed pictures to wooden bases. Nick has tried a number wood sealants recommended ex the web with Gel Gloss to 'transfer' the picture colours as postulated. However this is not as easy as expected. The wood colour affects the print colour upon the wood with the darker woods posing real problems to achieving a realistic result.

Printing paper needs to be gloss finish to achieve a cleaner picture transfer, and sealing this picture is best served using a spray lacquer.

Colin also showed and spoke about his copied German walking wooden dolls that march rocking side to side, but more work needs to be done to achieve the entire actions.

Show & Tell was a little sparse again.

Colin's dolls were shown also in S & T turned from pine as a prototype.

Next a nice large platter made by Phil from English Elm. Robust and very nicely finished with pleasing grain showing throughout.

Tim finished turning his egg cup immediately prior to the meeting and produced a fresh egg to



complete a neat partnership. Also shown was a larger (~70 mm) hot-melt aluminium cylinder suitable for chucking with a small centring pointed stud. Matched with a centre-punched flat bowl blank allowed a method to better/exact way to recentre a turning, see picture.

John Edwards turned two nice examples following from Colin's demonstration in May. The smaller square 'platter' is from camphor laurel with the grain colour captured well and the larger was from merbeu with winged flanges turned to support the bowl's weight.

Bob turned a medium sized diameter Australian cedar thin platter embellished with a groove burnt



into the flange. Nicely done and finished it was made using a hot-melt metal chuck (ex a VCR) and a plank only 14 mm thick. Bob said that he centres this hot-melt cylinder using 4 holes drilled into the cylinder body at 90 degree angles and adjusts the holes to mate with lines drawn at right



angles through the blank's centre. Worth trying.

Rusty had turned some A. cedar too into a 'double decker box'

from June's demonstration, incorporating all the necessary tightish dimensions to form a well turned and well finished unit. Well done.



Our demonstration for today was to be 3D Printing but Yuval's plane wasn't going to arrive home in time. So, Brian has willingly stepped in and demonstrated 'The Turning of a Mexican Molinillo'. This unit is used to froth hot milk and chocolate drinks by rotation rubbing it between the palms of the hands. It is not only turned but carved and burned as well, all of which Brian discussed prior to commencing to turn.

With a length of about 280 mm and a maximum diameter of about 50 or 60 mm the blank is turned between centres and marked out to rough down to the various diameters along the length. The choice of wood is critical from the point of health and its sustainability in hot fluids. For the demonstration Brian appropriately had chosen jacaranda.

After roughing, the fine turning commenced with the production of the 30 mm captive ring using a

HSS tip scraper oriented almost at right angles to the shaft of the chisel and working from both sides. Once the ring is freed the wood each side is removed and the diameter reduced as per the design. While the photo shows two rings it was agreed that only the larger ring would be turned as tools for the smaller ring were not available.



Continue working through the rough turned blank from the headstock end using a detailed gouge and a skew for the large bead and to get into the grooves between working along the 'wet' section to about 160 mm from the tailstock as this section will be used to rub the palms to achieve the rotation. This stem/handle length should be about 15 mm diameter and smooth except for a modest sphere at the top which is a little greater in diameter than the main stem. Note that the stem has some incidental



burned grooves, possibly done by wire, along its length.

For the demonstration the molinillo turning has now been completed and it is not intended that at this time to carve or burn the turning, but for members wishing to carve and colour their turning a few notes on these subjects are included.

Prior to any carving or burning a run through the sandpaper grits to 320 without rounding any intended edges is advised.

While it is assumed that the darker areas shown in the photo are due to burning this is not certain and could possibly be the result of some 'serious' surface staining such as with Japan Black etc. Staining would be quicker and easier but just how utilitarian it would be is uncertain; as are some many stains with regard to toxicity.

Either way once the surfaces are darkened there is the need for considerable carving of patterns. When the latter is completed carefully sand the carved areas if necessary making sure that the darkened areas are not sanded away or become shabby. What the Mexicans do to seal the wood is unknown but it seems a good principle to complete the turning with a few coats of lacquer, shellac or oil again being careful to select a non toxic finish.



Thanks Brian for a novel and interesting demonstration; let's see how many members will make their own Mexican frothers for next month's Show & Tell?

To finish the day Colin spoke about all the cork that is 'floating around' in Portugal. Some cork is used for pen production and this was demonstrated, however cork is much more difficult to turn on the mandrel than wood or plastic. While composite cork saws well it certainly turns poorly even with a sharp chisel or scraper and also sands (180 grit) poorly.

Cork turning certainly stimulated member interest with some ideas being trialled, but perhaps those nice pens on sale in the Portuguese shops aren't turned?



Thanks Brian and Colin for two interesting subjects.

