

# HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC.

Established 1983.

## eNEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2021.

Again another Zoom demonstration to commence the 2021 year from Elwyn's workshop with John Edwards demonstrating and Colin and Ian running the necessary 'technology' including an additional microphone supplied by Ian.

RUOK? Don't forget to let another member know if you need help during this time of Covid lockdown. We hope that this will be our last Zoom and that the March demonstration will be back at the Shed gym, but this of course will depend on the further lifting of restrictions. Confirmation of the 'venue' will be advised closer to the demonstration date of 13 March.

Stocks of honey dippers continue to flow in, thanks to Colin, John Edwards, Phil, Pierre and a number of anonymous members: again many thanks. Stocks of blanks are available at the Shed so please 'take and turn' some as we need about another 300 by end March.

Plans are afoot to improve the layout of our four larger lathes (also increasing the height of one Nova lathe) and for our midi and mini lathes to be operated on or adjacent to the benches as necessary. The provision of safety and Covid screens between the bigger lathes will be adopted too. Following some complaints regarding the lighting of the larger lathes new Laser lamps are being considered.

John Edwards and Ian McKay have commenced (minor) routine maintenance of the lathes so please let them know of any problems and necessary repairs.

Greg introduced John's demonstration, *The Lamination of Wood and its Subsequent Turning*. This was commenced with a discussion about the choice and the handling of woods, the gluing and centring prior to between centres turning, as well as turning instructions for a gouge handle.



Regarding the choice of wood; a contrasting pair of woods, (yellow) cypress pine and a brown eucalypt hardwood, were used and thickened to 10 mm by 180 mm long and 65 mm wide. The five boards were trimmed and sanded to 240 grit and alternatively glued using a jig and clamps to ensure effective results.

Gluing only one surface was considered sufficient provided a generous amount was applied and



when clamped glue was extruded continuously from around all edges of the laminates. The glue used for the demonstration was exterior grade Aquadere white PVA.

Using the 'right angle jig,' which was made for the demo, simplifies stacking and offers a good

basis for clamping and as well a bed for his use of the (kitchen) baking paper needed to prevent gluing the woods to the jig.

Once the laminates were glued and clamped together they were placed aside for the specified time or overnight to be absolutely certain that the glue has set.

The above lamination was not used in the subsequent turning operation, rather a pre-laminated billet was used. This billet had been glued with Gorilla yellow coloured glue using the same timbers and process.

The prepared billet about 400 mm long by 65 mm square was centre drilled (using a specialised centring drill bit) and set between centres using a Steb headstock and turned to a cylinder using a

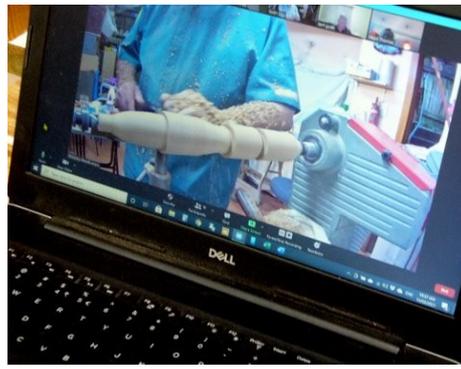


25 mm Ruffing Gouge. Although the eucalyptus wood is relatively much harder than the cypress there were no problems ruffing-down to a suitable finish at 40 mm diameter. Mark out at the critical lengths and using a sharp parting



tool turn down a thin cut to the required diameter for its position along the chisel handle.

Starting from the headstock, a spigot was turned to accommodate the chuck jaws for the later



drilling of the the hole for the chisel tang at the tailstock end. Turn the spigot and the handle using a 12 mm detail gouge. Then progressing to the tailstock end turn to suit the copper 22 mm diameter by 20 mm ferule followed by turning the contour of the handle to the diameters set earlier with the parting tool. [Note the surplus length of billet between the the handle, and the spigot for the chuck jaws shown in the photos, will be discarded once the turning is complete].

Once the contour of the handle is refined to the desired shape sand to 180 or 240 grit and oil to finish. Leave the ferule surface relatively ruff to afford good adhesion of the



glue/epoxy.

So we have an attractive and very serviceable handle ready to fit to a detail gouge.

The proposed 12 mm detail gouge to fit into the handle was not available at the time of the demonstration so fitting the ferule and the drilling the hole to suit the tang will need to wait until the gouge is available, or another chisel chosen! Should the chisel have been available it may have been advisable to drill its tang hole prior to turning and fitting a tailstock cone into the larger hole than as was demonstrated.

Thanks John, your demonstration has shown us how to turn a useful product as well as a background into wood lamination. We can now purchase all our chisels unhandled and turn a custom and unique handle to suit our requirements.

Next on the agenda was a lengthy discussion regarding chisel sharpening, particularly slow wet grinding. As it happens John Edwards has a Tormek 8 and Elwyn owns a similar machine, see photos. Note also the provision of a leather honing wheel on these devices. The comparison with fast grinding and the Shed's ProEdge was debated. The general thoughts were that wet grinding



was best, ProEdge OK, next a fast grinder with shaping jigs and lastly (for most turners) free-hand fast grinder sharpening.

Nowadays with new steels, and chisel prices rising, the cost of replacing chisels due to poor/frequent sharpening means that access to slow wet sharpening can not only give a sharper product? but also save money buying new chisels.



Lastly some Show & Tell.

Colin showed the lamination he places on the top of his many salt and pepper grinders, dark wood for pepper and white wood for



salt. He uses a similar lamination process as does John.

Greg showed a couple of chisel handles laminated from scrap Huon Pine and an unknown darker

wood. Note on the lower handle how the ferule spigot was turned at the wrong end almost causing its demise?

Elwyn turned a medium sized glowing coachwood bowl. This wood came from some old stock and is scarce now, but turns beautifully and smells even better as it's turned. A very nice bowl.

[I'm reliably informed that this wood is available on the legs of dumped Stromberg-Carlson 1950's TV sets..... but then these TV sets are scarce too]. Also shown was a beaded bowl turned using a Sorby beading scrapper. This was unfinished and Elwyn says that he prefers turning beads with a sweptback 10 mm detail gouge.



Thanks John, Elwyn, Colin and Ian for the Zoom demonstration. This has been an interesting topic and lamination offers another and wider turning opportunity for us all.



Our next Saturday demonstration will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> March and as stated could be Zoom or live dependant upon Covid. Advice to follow closer to the day.

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For further interest or to join-in woodturning go to [www.hornsbymensshed.org.au](http://www.hornsbymensshed.org.au)