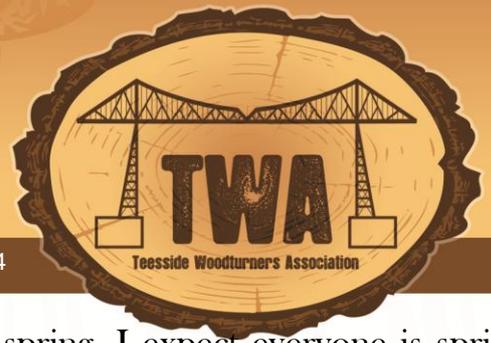


Turning Point

March 2019

Newsletter



Chairman Stan Lax Tel. 01642 652328 : Secretary Brian Haggath Tel. 01642 454064

After a fantastic February, which seems to herald an early spring, I expect everyone is spring cleaning their workshops ready for another years turning. The table-tops seem to be busier for the time of year; another good omen. I have lost count of the new faces I keep meeting on club nights- perhaps it's the Alzheimer's kicking in? At any rate, I am now ascending column one of the attendance sheet so it's high time I did something of note- I just can't imagine what it is yet. .

PR



Table-top Turn-out 6th February

Reece Porritt

Nigel Coates

Graham Hobson

Graham Phoenix

Kev Russell

Alan Jobling

Events Diary

- 6th March Bowl Save Demo
- 20th Mar Richard Kennedy
- 03rd Apr AGM
- 10th April Mike Nightingale Pen Making
- 17th Apr Tony Wilson RPT
- 15th May Emma Cook RPT – The Tiny Turner
- 19th Jun Sue Harker RPT
- 24th July* Mick Hanbury RPT
- 21st Aug John Basford- TWA
- 18th Sept David Lowe RPT

*Please note demonstration for July is on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

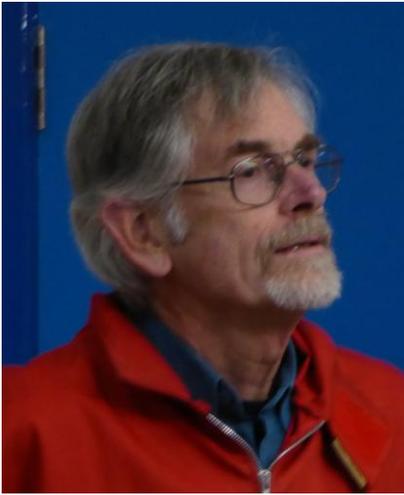
Annual Subscriptions

Subs., which are (remarkably) still only £35:00, are due on 1st April 2019. Brian will be collecting from 6th March on club nights.

Any Cheques should be payable to "Teesside Woodturners Association" (in full **not** TWA!)

Editor: peter.ryles@ntlworld.com

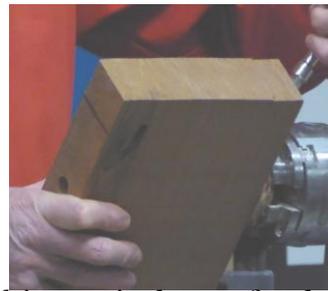
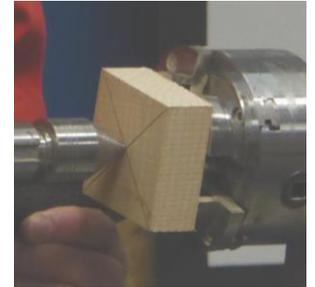
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February Demo: Nigel Coates : A Discus Vase

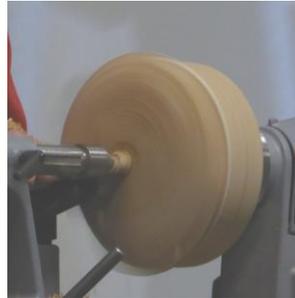
Of course, nothing straightforward from Nigel - He set the suspense straight away by leaving two unanswered questions : Why is the hole drilled through before we start? * And How do we make the vase with no inserts (which cover the chucking points)? * * Everything else was straightforward (?!!!)

Nigel began by drawing centre lines on all of the faces. As stated he had previously drilled a hole for the pedestal and another through from one face to the other. Nigel showed how to make sacrificial chucking points and inserts for the chucking points that would be made in the main faces. He explained that the sacrificial wood was attached with hot melt glue and showed us how to make the rotation safer using the tail stock. He then began the turning by cutting the curve into the top



face. Nigel showed us his equivalent of a bobbin sander which he used to finish the curve. Next he re-chucked on the main side and cut out a slot for a chucking point fitting and checking the insert using double sided tape (and the through-hole for removal again *). Cutting a curve to the edge, Nigel explained how the different sided zebra wood example was made and how the duality of the surfaces could be emphasised with a slight offset. He finished by showing how a





'Haggath inspired' concave dolly could be used to substitute for a chucking point and leave the main surface unsullied. **

All in all, another fascinating demo from a real master. PR

Table-top Turn-out 27th February



MICROWAVE DRYING OF MATERIAL FOR WOODTURNERS

This is an abbreviated article from one I had printed in woodworking magazines in the USA some twenty years ago but it still holds good today.

It is always nice to get a supply of cheap timber. Unfortunately this usually means freshly felled from a neighbours or friends garden. When you work with wood, all friends and neighbours seem to think that you can use any timber. If you cannot look a gift horse in the mouth and say "no thank you", the following might be helpful, but first make sure you can use the home microwave or cooking oven, I do not want to

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be responsible for a domestic row. Both of these can be used to season material.

Cut the timber to a length or size that fits the appliances. Do not remove any bark and do not seal the ends. If using the microwave it should be noted that it only cooks to 60mm and from the centre outwards. If you do not have a moisture meter, then weigh the timber and note it. Place it in the microwave and set the dial to DEFROST. **Using the high setting will cause an explosion.** Heat on DEFROST for a maximum of FOUR MINUTES, then remove it and allow it to go cold (which usually takes around four hours). To keep it in the oven and keep heating it without allowing it to cool will destroy the cell structure. When cold, weigh again or use the meter and note the settings. Keep on putting it in the microwave on DEFROST and allow to go cold until you reach a moisture content of around 8 to 10 %. This is usually the optimum content that we would use. If you are weighing the piece, then when you get two weights identical, you have reached the appropriate moisture content for that piece of material. Allow it to cool and then you can produce your masterpiece.

If you are using a cooking oven then you can dry larger pieces of material, especially if you have a fan oven. Set the temp on the oven to 50 degrees and place the material inside after weighing it and noting the weight. Leave in situ for an hour and remove and allow to cool. Carry out the same procedure as the microwave. Weigh again or use the meter and replace again for another hour once again removing and allowing to cool. Once you have achieved the desired moisture content or identical weights you can allow it to stand and cool completely before use.

Drying material like this is not an exact science and leaves a lot to trial and error but it beats having to wait months or years for usable material to dry. Once dry, coat the ends with either PVA glue or candle wax heated in a tray and then the material dipped into it.

Woodturning is all about experimentation and sometimes things such as this can help you build up a nice collection of free timber.

David Muckle RPT

Great North Air Ambulance

Once again the club has raised £1000 to support this great cause. Of course the lion's share of this comes from Stan's sales of turned items at displays which he gives completely to the GNAAS. This is the fifth year we have contributed this amount. Well done everyone, especially Stan.

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