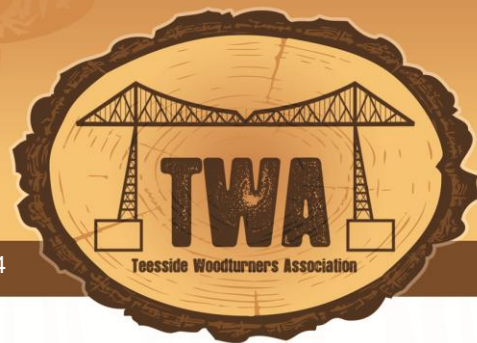


Turning Point

May 2015

Newsletter



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

A slow start to this month - maybe folk were worried about April Fool's Day. Highlights for May include Peter Osbourne RPT and our own Dick Simpson going 'live' with his love heart demo on May 13th.

You will of course recall Dick's article in our first "How do you do. . ." series in March. I am very keen to encourage members to show us how they make particularly interesting items and have been giving much thought to how to fill the magazine. Recently I have been offered articles which have come from the internet or other magazines. However, I firmly believe that our magazine is about what our members do so I have decided, entirely unilaterally, that I will not reproduce articles from other sources; I will only show what our members actually do. This will enable us to abide by copyright restrictions and will avoid reproducing what can be found elsewhere. I am of course, extremely keen to publish members reviews and recommendations regarding other articles and sources and where to find them. That is entirely consistent with good practice and does not waste precious space!

Pete R.

April 1st Table-Top Turn-out



Emerging Bowl

To the left you can see one of those really interesting items that get you thinking How did he do that? Dennis sent me an article which can be found at :

www.woodturnersresource.com/extras/projects/Emerging_Bowl/emerging_bow...

This falls in the category described above!

Editor: peter.ryles@ntlworld.com

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April 8th Table-top Turn-out



April 15th Pro- Demo: Andrew Hall RPT

This was Andrew's fifth visit to our club in the last ten years or so and once again he gave an excellent demonstration.

He started by turning a Roman style bowl which he called a Roman Denarius bowl. He then textured it with the Sorby texturing wheel then applied various stains and colourings to give a striking finished product.

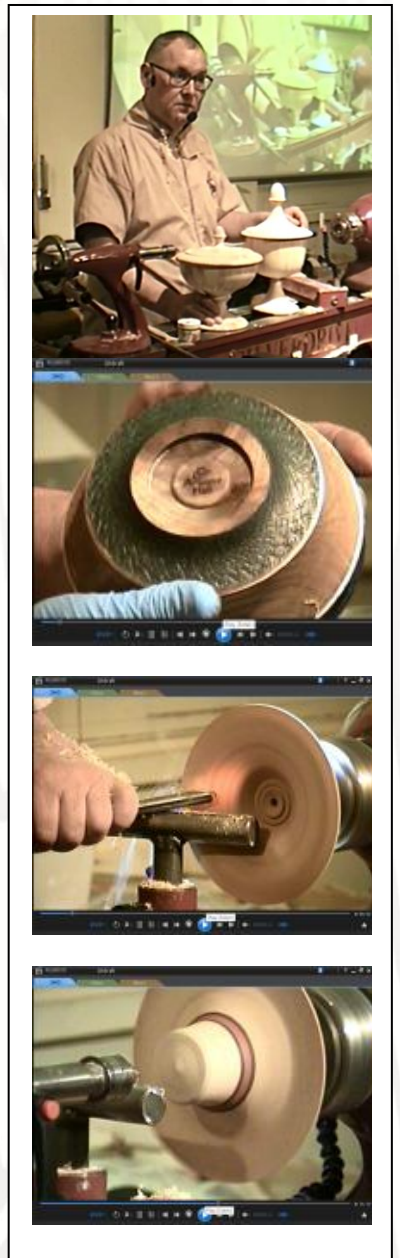
After tea break he went on to turn one of his 'signature' hats, the smallest of the series for which he is so well known. As usual he fascinated his audience with the light getting ever brighter through the timber as he turned it to about 2mm thickness....he makes it look so easy !! When it was finished he gave it to young Bailey Clapham (11 years old) who comes to the demos with his granddad because he is too young to join our club.

He showed Bailey how to bend up the rim with rubber bands and asked him to make a stand for it and to send him a photograph.

Finally Andrew showed us the two large wassail bowls which he has made for a customer.

All in all it was another very interesting and varied demonstration.

Report by Brian Haggath



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Sphere Based Turning (Part 1)

Researched and compiled by Bob Marshall

Most wood turning is performed on material mounted in a single plane; the wood is placed between centres or held in a chuck. It is then worked perpendicular or parallel to the grain. However, as early as the 16th century, turners discovered that if the material being worked was in the shape of a sphere, then it could be worked from any point, rotated and then worked from any other point, producing concentric designs. This is the basis for all sphere-based creations.



Earliest known reference dates from 1581 but many of the modern tools and processes were outlined in 1816 by L. E. Bergeron which included detailed drawings and explanations. These were further covered in 1881 by John Jacob Holtzapffel 'Turning and Mechanical Manipulation'. Chinese craftsmen started making them in the 18th century. Often made of ivory, these 'Chinese balls' were usually intricately carved and ornately decorated.

What are these things?

The most common modern pursuit is what's commonly referred to as the 'Chinese ball'. It's usually a wooden sphere about 2-1/2" in diameter with 12 holes about 3/4". The sphere is 1/8" thick and inside it, separated by a 1/8" gap is another sphere. The second sphere also has 12 holes and contains a third sphere. The third sphere contains a fourth sphere and finally a solid ball 1/2" in diameter for a total of 5 spheres (4 hollow and 1 solid), all contained within each other. Creations may commonly have as few as 6 holes or as many as 32 (usually 12 large and 20 smaller). They may contain a greater or lesser number of spheres, or simply be hollow balls. Instead of additional spheres, they may contain cubes, stars or even lidded boxes. Also, the external shape can also be something other than a sphere, such as the 12-sided dodecahedron.



What's the trick?

There is no trick. These items are created exactly as you see them. They're made by securing a sphere in a hemispherical chuck, drilling a hole and inserting tools that cut a chase at a given distance from the outside of the sphere. The chases cut from adjacent holes intersect each other and eventually release the interior shape.

.... To be concluded next month.

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April 29th Table-Top Turn-Out



May 6th Table-Top Turn-Out



Events Diary	
May	13 th Dick Simpson Wooden Heart Box 20 th Peter Osborne RPT
June	17 th 'Robert Sorby'
July	15 th David Lowe RPT
August	19 th Tony Wilson RPT
September	16 th Gerry Marlowe RPT
October	21 st Sue Harker RPT
November	18 th Mick Hanbury RPT

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