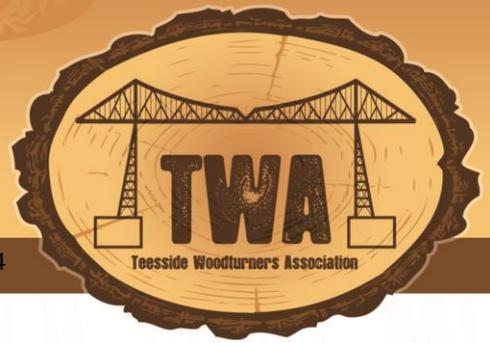


Turning Point

November 2018

Newsletter



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

Another odd month with me missing the first meeting, then being unable to attend the Charnwood meeting and the Halloween meeting being cancelled. I thought we'd be lucky to fill a page but once again member contributions saved the day. Thanks again to Nigel Coates and to Duncan Hutchinson
Pete R

Table-top Turn-out 10th October

Ian Robson x3



Roy Jones x2



Band-saw Allan



Dave Johnston



Events Diary

November 2018

Fri 16 to Sun 18: Harrogate Woodworking/Woodturning Show. Our club not involved but many of our members will be attending.

Wednesday 21: Demonstration by club member Randal Marr R.P.T.

January 2019

Wed 16: We will start the New Year with a demonstration by club member Stan Lax.

February 2019 To Be Arranged

March 2019

Wed 20: Visiting turner Richard Kennedy RPT will give our first professional demonstration of the year.

Editor: peter.ryles@ntlworld.com

WWW.TEESIDEWOODTURNERS.COM

Glass Globes

I have the chance to order some of the glass lighted Christmas globes that Dennis displayed at the club. These are normally £5 plus postage but are being offered at £5 including postage. They are available in multi colour or purple.

They do make an excellent tree decoration or even a table decoration on a prepared base as against hanging on a tree. Before I order any more, if anyone at the club would like any please get in touch by e-mail. I only have two orders from members and if none are forthcoming then I will order for those two only.

My e-mail is
turnerdave560@gmail.com

David M

Hamlet Tools

The 2019 price list has arrived in full today and as expected there is a rise which although small at 3.5% really increases the tool price. It applies from 1st January this year instead of April.

I can still obtain gouges at the present price which to members gives a 30% discount off the price. I know I have said before that you will not get anything like the quality at the price I get them for at the Harrogate show, but it is true. From what I have been told through the trade it is definite that very little or no discount will be given at the show for any of the major turning tools. In fact I noticed last year that many sellers actually increased prices for the show.

So if any member needs or wants any quality turning tools then please either see me at the club or e-mail me. If I put an order in now, delivery will be mid December due to many suppliers stocking up at the old price. This also applies to the Henry Taylor gouges.

Hamlet are really excellent tools, made from British steel and are milled from solid bar and not stamped out. This makes them stronger. I can also supply the gouges in the new M42 steel at the same discount.

Contrary to what you see from the Toolpost they are not the only firm to supply these, mine are a lot cheaper though.

David M.

“Where Do You Get Your Wood From?”(part 2)

Secondly, companies/people who simply sell wood – these are usually sawmills or tree surgeons. They may be willing to cut it for you in order to get it into a car, for example, but it is mostly sold in planks or lumps.

North East Hardwood Supplies, Neasham, Co Durham, Tel: 07714 808810 (mobile)(no website)

A one-man operation run by Martin Harrison – very friendly and loves wood. His main business is supplying firewood for log-burning stoves, but he also sells planks and woodturning blanks. Note that Martin now has two sites; one near Darlington (described below) which has the planks and blanks; the other site is just north of the hamlet of Streetlam (off the Northallerton to Richmond road - B6271), this is for firewood. He seems to spend weekends at the Darlington site, and weekdays dealing with firewood. So best to phone before going to make sure where he is. A huge range of native hardwoods in all sorts of shapes and sizes – planks, logs, turning blanks (a small number), and a few burrs. Best to go with some idea of what you want, but you'll almost certainly buy something else as well. Prices are quite reasonable – slightly below what you would find at Snainton.

Editor: peter.ryles@ntlworld.com

WWW.TEESIDEWOODTURNERS.COM

Scawton Sawmill Ltd The Sawmill, Scawton, Thirsk, North Yorkshire, YO7 2HG. Tel: 01845 597733
www.scawtonsawmill.co.uk

Not a true sawmill, because much of the timber is imported in the form of thick boards, though much of it is re-sawn to smaller sizes for sale. In addition to selling timber to furniture manufactures, they also design and build furniture and kitchens themselves. Expect to buy large planks, or perhaps any off-cuts they may have lying around.

M J Wall and Sons The Sawmill, Westwood Lane, Ampleforth, York, YO62 4DU. Tel: 01439 788 554
www.wallandsonssawmill-ampleforth.co.uk

A typical country sawmill, miles from anywhere, and up a narrow lane – mud and wood everywhere, but currently one of my favourite places to go. To get there, again use the A170 Thirsk to Helmsley road, but this time the sawmill is to the south of this main road.

They do not supply specific banks for turners, but you are welcome to browse through a large supply of off-cuts. There is also a pile of burrs cut from the sides of logs. Note that these burrs are kept outside so they will likely be wet and muddy, but can be of almost any size. There is no pricing structure as far as I know, so everything is “by agreement”.

Note that their opening hours are 8 am – 5 pm Monday to Friday, though they are sometimes open on Saturday mornings – best to ring to check.

Kevin Patton Tree Surgeon Ltd Garden Cottage, Hemble Hill Farm, Middlesbrough Road, Guisborough, Cleveland, TS14 8JT. Tel: 01287 637855 or: 07977322702

A tree surgeon who also planks timber for use by furniture makers and woodturners. It may just be me, but I don't find him very easy to deal with. Not a huge selection, but some very nice pieces, mostly in thicker sections. As with most tree surgeons and sawmills the wood is usually rough-sawn and air dried.

Grange Farm Timber The Grange, Rosedale Abbey, Pickering, North Yorkshire, YO18 8RD
Tel: 01751 417329 or: 01751 417268 www.grangefarmtimber.co.uk

There is a wide variety of native hardwoods, in a number of sheds and barns (Henry will show you where), but no turning blanks a such. Almost all the wood is rough-sawn in plank form in a range of widths and thicknesses, though some of it is kiln dried. It is advisable to take gloves and old clothes because you will likely be left to sort through it for yourself. Find what you want, then come to an agreement with Henry as to the cost.

Danny Frost Timber, Lowmoor Farm, Bothel, Wigton, Cumbria, CA7 2JN. Tel: 016973 71075
www.dannyfrost.co.uk

Another company in the northern Lake District, but further to go. A great selection of mainly native British timbers for both the woodturner and furniture maker, in all sorts of sizes. If you want something specific, then it is best to ring first.

T G Norman Unit 25, Francismoor Wood, Brampton Road, Longtown, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA6 5TR
Tel: 01228 791777 www.tgnorman.co.uk

On the A6071 between Brampton and Longtown – much closer to the latter. There is a map on the website.

They are one of the best places to get oak, elm, and ash burrs. The real purpose of the company is to supply things like fencing, gates, posts, etc. They also act as coal merchants to the local people around Longtown. The burrs are really a by-product of the business. They are cut from the trees the company takes in for processing, and because they don't want them, the burrs are thrown into skips and containers for sale to anyone who is prepared to go and collect them.

Editor: peter.ryles@ntlworld.com

WWW.TEESIDEWOODTURNERS.COM

A few points to be aware of:- You have to sort through the skips and trailers for yourself to select what you want, so take old clothes and gloves. The burrs have to be taken as seen, don't ask the company to cut them – they may be anything from a few inches in size to several feet. Don't expect them all to be perfect, some may have been lying around in damp conditions for months; so inspect them carefully. Price is by negotiation, though roughly £2 - £3 per kilo. Select what you want and make a cash offer.

Nidd Valley Sawmills Dacre banks, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG3 4EA. Tel: 01423 780220
(no website)

It is several years since I was last there, but I believe they are still in business – probably best to ring first. Another good place for oak and elm burrs. The company's business is to supply hardwood to the furniture industry. As such, burrs are of little use to them, so they are put into a skip and sold to anyone who wants them. Again, a few points to be aware of:- You have to sort through the skips for yourself, though under supervision from the man in charge. The burrs have to be taken as seen, don't ask the company to cut them – they may be anything from a few inches in size to several feet. They should be in good condition however, because they are all held under cover. Price is by negotiation. Select what you want and see what it costs.

Philip Richardson Newbiggin-on-Lune, Cumbria, CA17 4NB. Tel: 015396 23422
www.philiprichardson.co.uk

The main purpose of the company is making fitted hardwood kitchens and furniture. However, they are happy to sell any off-cuts, burrs etc., for a few pounds (or even for free). Also a good place to buy high quality hardwood for making your own furniture, or for special turnings.

Nigel's article concludes next month with an examination of the possibilities of FREE wood!

Turning Pens

There are many tools, jigs and finishes etc, with the association of the word "Pen" some of which can be useful others which are a waste of time and money and nearly always come at a premium price. If like me you are just starting out to try pen turning and you don't want to invest too heavily until you're sure that it's something that you want to do, then think about using what tools you have in your workshop and making your own jigs, for example a barrel insertion tool can be made by cutting down an old screwdriver with a shank of a suitable size and assembly cones can be made to fit your lathe chuck and tailstock using hardwood or an old plastic kitchen chopping board.

In woodturning there are always alternative methods for achieving your end goal and the following is based upon sound advice that I have been given and methods that I have found to work.

This article concentrates on making wooden slim-line pens as this is where most of us tend to start, but the same techniques apply to making pens using other kits and barrel materials.

Getting ready to make a pen

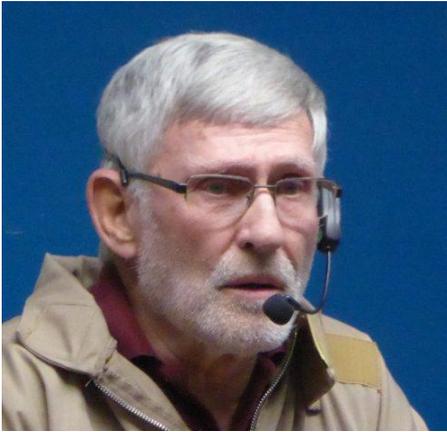
1. Choose your pen kit and barrel blank material.
2. Barrel blanks for slim-line pens are recommended as measuring a minimum 20 to 22mm square,
3. Cut each blank 1/16" to 1/8" longer than the barrels
4. Mark the barrel blanks so that when assembling the pen the grain of the wood matches
5. Mount the blank in your chuck, fit your drill in a drill chuck mounted in the headstock. Set to 1000 rpm and drill the blank in stages of no more than 3/4" depth at a time cleaning out swarf as you go.

Editor: peter.ryles@ntlworld.com

WWW.TEESIDEWOODTURNERS.COM

17th October: Club Demo by Brian Haggath

Making a bowl with crossed ring inserts



Brian hates to disappoint and challenged himself to demonstrate something he had never done before! He was able to describe first hand many of the pit-falls possible with this project as he had been through them personally.

He began by describing the process of cutting, dressing and gluing the contrasting layers into the main block and proceeded to turn a block with plywood inserts (for the first time) as it would be more interesting! Using a prepared rounded blank with attached spigot, Brian rapidly turned the outside of the bowl taking care to keep the bands of even width. The plywood was not of the best quality and proved difficult to smooth without tear-out. Nevertheless, Brian



Was able to complete and polish the exterior and went on to show us the hollowing and finishing. After removal of the spigot he had a respectable bowl with intersecting rings.

This was a lively demonstration, riddled with humour, which was hugely informative. We all learn from our mistakes but it is much better to learn from someone else's. Thanks Brian for saving us from all that trouble! PR



Turning Pens (continued)

7. Abrade the outer surface of the barrel for better adhesion, but this is not necessary.
8. Use polyurethane glue as this expands and fills in gaps around the tubes. It therefore results in fewer problems when turning so is better than using CA glue.
9. Apply glue to half of the barrel, insert it into one end of the barrel blank twisting as you do so as to spread the glue evenly, remove the barrel apply more glue and twisting again insert in the other end of the barrel blank and ensure that it is not protruding at either end of the blank. If you wish use masking tape over the ends to stop it moving.
10. Repeat this for the second barrel.
11. Set aside for 24 hours for the glue to set.
12. Trim the end of the blank using a barrel trimmer or other method ensuring that the ends are cut square.
13. If necessary, de burr the inside of the tube with a countersunk bit or a fine half round file

Turning your pen

1. Mount the blanks on your pen mandrel ensuring that you have used the appropriate bushes and that the blanks are correctly aligned so that the grain of the wood matches.
2. Use only enough tailstock pressure to hold the end of the mandrel in place for rotation Too much tailstock pressure will cause the mandrel shaft to flex, and the turned parts will end up being eccentric.
3. Use sharp tools.
4. Using as high a speed as you are comfortable with turn the blanks to your required design and sizes

Finishing

1. With the lathe turned off sand the turned barrels axially with the grain starting at 120 or 180 grit, proceeding through 240 to 320 grit.
2. With the lathe turned on at a low speed continue to sand radially ensuring that the abrasive is constantly being moved in a circular motion starting at 400 and progressing through to 1200 or higher for polishing (mainly for acrylic blanks, but wet and dry or Micro-Mesh Soft Touch Pad Abrasives may be used.).
3. Apply a tough, durable finish such as 6 to 8 coats of Muckle Finish, allowing a few seconds between coats to dry
4. Lightly abrade/polish the final coats as necessary
5. Apply carnauba wax or microcrystalline wax
6. Alternatively apply carnauba wax followed by Microcrystalline wax

Assembling your pen

1. Ensure that the twist mechanism is working by trying with a refill before fitting
2. First insert the nib into the correct end of the appropriate blank
3. Ensure that the twist mechanism is retracted so that it doesn't get damaged when inserting, do not insert fully (i.e. so that brass is no longer showing) fit and try the refill is protruding correctly, if not enough adjust by inserting the mechanism further.
4. Fit the clip to the end cap and then insert the cap into the top barrel, ensuring that it is in the correct end so that the grain/pattern matches the bottom
5. Fit the top blank using the spacer ring if your kit contains one.

Conclusion

The joy of giving or selling a finished pen is rewarding and your efforts are appreciated by the recipient. Pen turning is among the simplest of the woodturning projects, it is the attention to detail that produces quality pens as the turning skills and tools needed are basic.

An article by Duncan Hutchinson

Editor: peter.ryles@ntlworld.com

WWW.TEESIDEWOODTURNERS.COM