



# EREWASH VALLEY WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

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## TURNING TIMES

### No.62 September 2014

#### Chairman's Comments

It is this time of the year that Trevor puts a great deal of energy in preparing the demonstrators and the diary for next year, and into 2016.

As always, he would welcome ideas and suggestions from members.

I thoroughly enjoyed the recent demonstration of the woodcarver, Peter Berry. It was an excellent presentation, full of ideas, tips and humour, and refreshing to have a subject that diverted from woodturning, but can still be related, especially with all the 'art forms and designs' appearing into woodturning.

Trevor is hoping to offer another woodworking variation next summer. He is in contact with John Wilson of Michigan, USA (world-renowned for his Shaker Boxes) with a view to arranging a 1-day course at the Club for a group who

could each make a Shaker Box. Some of you will remember John's visit in 2009, when he only had time to talk about the Shaker tradition and show some boxes.

In the meantime let me remind you of the two competitions for **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October**, the **Keith Rowley** Competition and the **Chambers Cup** Competition. Please give some consideration to enter either or both of the competitions- and there is no restriction to the number of pieces you may enter. For first timers, the Chambers Cup Competition may be the one to go for. Further details are in this newsletter.

Our recent Charity event on August Bank Holiday Monday, at 'The National Forest Wood Fair', near Woodhouse Eaves, was, despite the very wet conditions throughout the day, a resounding success. Thanks to your efforts we made £480 towards our nominated charity.

Thank to those who have contributed articles for this edition, it really does make my job that much easier.

Finally, I mention in the last edition that Steve Gaskin passed away in June. As a thank you to our club, his wife has expressed a wish to donate a few of Steve’s turning tools to our club. They will be placed in the club’s tool bag for use at our ‘Hands On’ evenings. Do consider using them – they will all be sharpened to the ‘recommended standard’ angles, so may be used by those who wish to understand or compare such gouges.

Safe turning.

*Robin*

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## EVWA PROGRAMME for 2014/2015

Wednesdays

Saturdays

September 10	Mark Raby
October 8	Keith Rowley & Chambers Competitions
	October 18 Les Thorne
November 12	Nikos Siragas
December 10	Christmas Social

### 2015

January 14	Dennis Robinson & Brian Thornton
February 11	Alan Truman
March 11	Annual General Meeting

Reminder - Hands On evenings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month EXCEPT August, November and December (see your membership card for details)

## Hands On evenings

In July the theme was Pencil Pots, hosted by John. Several designs were produced and in fact, at the recent National Forest Wood Fair, all but 2 were chosen as tombola prizes.

We have two remaining Hands On evenings this year.

**- Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> September when Brian Thornton will be our host and the theme will be making fruit. Please bring along suitable pieces of timber on the evening.**

**- Wed. 22<sup>nd</sup> October when Rachel will be focussing on pyrography. If you have a machine, please bring it along.**

Please continue to make and donate items throughout this year. Vic has a folder on display at each meeting. This is full of ideas for charity and

contains most of the more popular designs.

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## MICK HANBURY - Wed. 9<sup>th</sup> July

Mick demonstrated how to make a bedside lamp and lampshade.



He started with a piece of Ash 3 X 3 X 8 mounted between centres.

Proceeding to go from square to round he was happy to leave a small “flat” area because when remounted on a spigot in the chuck there would be some distortion evident and hence further cuts would be required to achieve a final round surface. He demonstrated various methods of going from square to round i.e. spindle roughing gouge; side wing of swept back bowl gouge or a flat skew chisel. He recommended for safety to cut away from the chuck. He used a spindle gouge to cut a dovetail spigot sized to fit the chuck jaws - then re-mounted in the chuck.



Once mounted in the chuck square the end off with a parting tool and round off the edge working from small to large diameter. Create a “V” by using a slicing cut with spindle gouge. Mark the centre of the end with a parting tool and bring up the tailstock for stability and safety.

Mick uses a spindle gouge with a double bevel to get the tighter curves required and this also gives less tear-out.

The desired design for a table lamp means that the base should not be “too” light so his aim was to leave some weight in the base. However for a pleasing style continuous curves are required. He suggested that you plan your feet positions starting with the “uncomfortable” position as the final part of the cut i.e. in this case the left foot then start the cut from the right foot ending in that left foot position.

Remove tailstock; finalise the rounding of the end to suit the intended lampshade and proceed to sanding. Since this is ash it was not recommended to go any further than 400 grit. Mick prefers to avoid the dust by sanding in combination with a wax-oil. i.e. liquid paraffin and beeswax 80:20.



Remove tailstock and drill hole to the base. In this case 10 mm to suit the proposed LED lamp and cable. Modify the hole entry, again to suit the lamp. Use thin parting tool to with slight under-cut to complete this base. Apply finish as required. Mick prefers an oil finish.

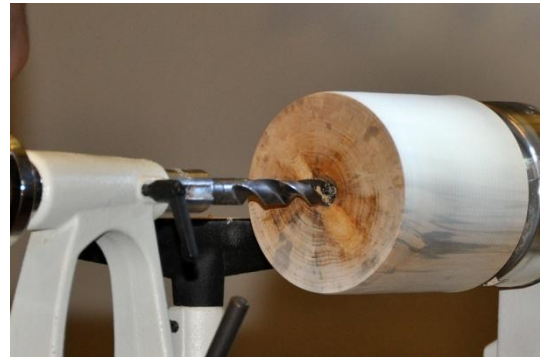
## The Lampshade

The next part is to turn the lampshade. A fairly green Sycamore log is used. Mounting between centres Mick was careful to find the best balance for the log. He used a "pull-cut" with the side of a bowl gouge; the handle low on his hip; and using a slow speed of feed he produced long continuous shavings.

Make a chucking dovetailed spigot; reverse timber and hold in the chuck.



To begin the hollowing out it is easiest to start by drilling a hole. Slow the speed down and put a small counter sink in the centre and drill to the required depth.



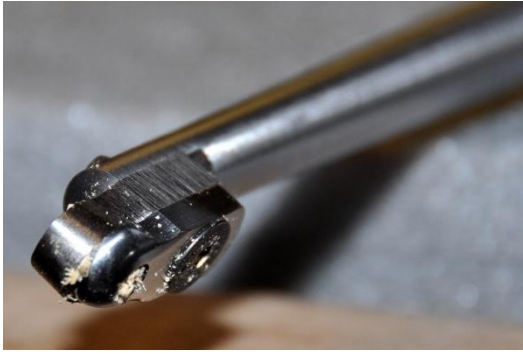
Don't start hollowing unless you plan to complete the hollowing, because the stresses in the wood will cause distortion. The shape of the initial part of hollowing is dictated by the shape of the top of the base, since that is where it will sit. The LED lamp will fit into hole in base and stick out of the top.

Five tools/methods for hollowing were shown and discussed:-

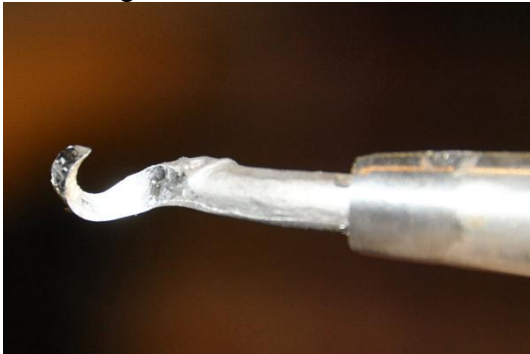
- 1.) Firstly start by drawing out from the centre using a spindle gouge. Note if there is chatter it means that too much of the blade/cutting edge is in use so slight repositioning of the gouge is required.
- 2.) A push cut can be used but this will tear out the fibres because it is cutting against the grain.



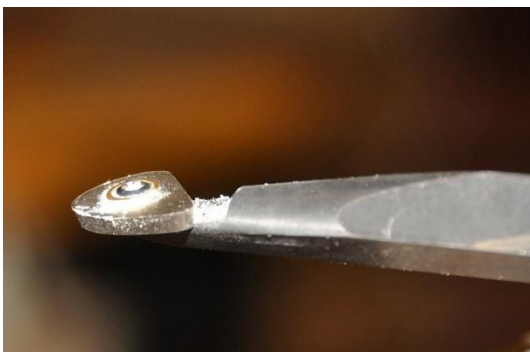
- 3.) The "Little Sister" hollowing tool from Hamlet is specifically designed for hollowing end grain. The tool is controlled by twisting the wrist. Cut on or just below centre line. If cutter appears blocked with shavings then push harder and do a "bold" cut to clear it.



4.) Mick demonstrated the use of a small hook tool which was very effective for hollowing.



5.) Finally the cleaning up cuts can be made using a teardrop scraper in shear cutting mode i.e. at 45 degrees.



Once the inner shape is correct you can begin on the outer - using an LED lamp mounted on the tailstock. The wooden mounting had holes drilled at different angles in order to help position the lamp appropriately.



With the light in the middle proceed in small stages to cut the outer to a thickness shown initially by the light shining through the wood.



Continue to check wall thickness and depth as you proceed towards the end or top of the shade- sanding at each stage as you proceed.



Slow the lathe down and put a light pencil spiral from top to bottom of the shade. This will show the way for the piercing. Finalise the shape of the top and part off using point of skew chisel.



For piercing Mick recommended the use of a dentist drill - (John Woods's dentist drill.) as it cuts at such high speed and is more controllable than a Dremel. However a Dremel can be used with care. For best results always ensure that the cutting edge is at right angles to the surface being cut.



Random shaped piercings produced best results.

An oil finish is best. Do not use lacquer because of the piercings.

A gold leaf finish for the inner surface of the shade could also be considered.

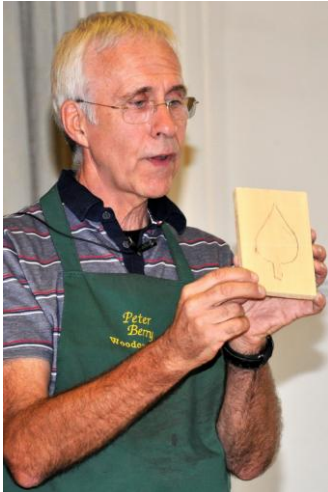


*Report by John Oliver*

**PETER BERRY – WOODCARVER**  
**WED 13<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

Early on Peter stated that “everything I have carved, I have drawn first” and held up a basic drawing of a leaf and proceeded to transfer the leaf outline onto a piece of jelutong..

**RELIEF CARVING**



All chisels must be razor sharp. Flexicut carving chisels were used throughout the demonstration.

With the wood placed on a hand made jig the leaf outline was cut with a vee chisel.

The outline of the leaf was then cut away using a No.5 scoop chisel. Using a No.3 scoop (larger), cuts taken around the first relief.

TIP – when cutting with scoop chisels, roll the chisel rather than a push cut.



Then cut away the leaf area, transfer leaf pattern (veins, etc.) vee cut the veins and the central stem.



**APPLIQUE CARVING –a dolphin (jelutong)**

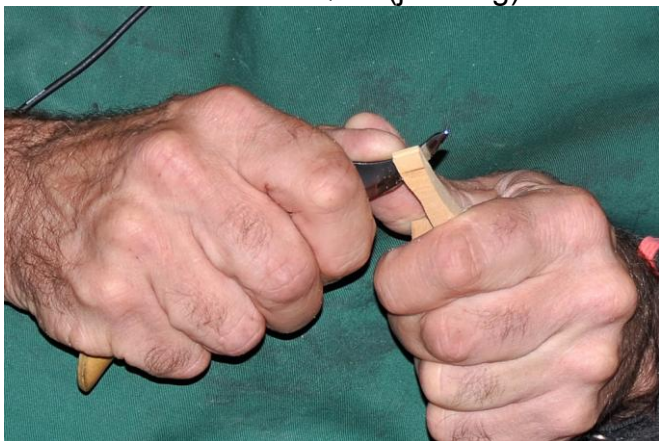


First cut off all sharp edges – be aware of the run of the grain



TIP - Always draw and cut paper patterns for side views and top view before commencing any carving and transfer onto the wood.

## WHITTLING TECHNIQUE (jelutong)



TIP – always use the 'thumb on thumb' technique, never separate thumbs whilst cutting – slice and push.



TIP – Design technique – look at models as blocks of squares before cutting/carving to shape.

## RELIEF CARVING



Birch wood  
A Proxxon style power carver was used for this design.





## November's COMPETITIONS DETAILS AND RULES

### - **KEITH ROWLEY ROSE BOWL**

**OPEN COMPETITION – TO  
EVERYONE EXCEPT THE  
PREVIOUS YEAR'S  
WINNER**

### - **CHAMBERS CUP**

**OPEN COMPETITION – TO  
EVERYONE EXCEPT ALL  
THE PREVIOUS 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup>  
AND 3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE WINNERS  
OF THIS CUP**

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## CUSTOMS AND LEGENDS

(tales for the young at heart)

An old folk tale tells us why yew trees have such dark needles. When yew was a young species and there was not many people, the yew thought other trees were more beautiful with their colourful leaves that caught the light and would flutter in the breeze.

The fairies discovered why the tree was so sad and gave the yew leaves of gold.

Robbers came and stripped the tree and left it sad and confused. The fairies then gave the tree leaves of purest crystal, and **the tree's heart sang with joy**. But, the first storm of autumn shattered the crystals.

The fairies then gave the tree broad bright leaves that could flutter in the air on a light breeze. This only attracted the goats who ate all the leaves, leaving it cold and bare.

The tree then realised its dark needles were best for its deep knowledge, and now is a happy tree.

(Taken from '*A Tree in Your Pocket*')

Contributed by *Malcolm Parkin*

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*The yew – an interesting footnote.*

At the approximate centre of Scotland, at the eastern end of one of its longest glens, grows what is possibly Europe's, oldest tree. The Fortingall yew in Glen Lyon has been estimated to be anything from over two thousand to nine thousand years old. A popular legend associated with this yew relates how Pontius Pilate was born under this tree or played as a child in its branches, suggesting that the tree was already a landmark over two thousand years ago. Though the Romans did not invade Britain until 43 AD, several expeditions had visited from 55 BC onwards. Various interpretations suggest that Pontius Pilate's father was on a diplomatic mission to a Pictish King when news reached him at Fortingall of the birth of his son, or another that his wife had been travelling with him and gave birth at Fortingall.

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## THE NATIONAL WOOD FAIR

**Some reflections of the very wet day at  
the National Forest Wood Fair,  
Woodhouse Eaves, on August Bank  
Holiday Monday**



*A motley crew (Trevor is behind the camera)*

**Despite the conditions the event proved  
to be a great success.**

The event was brilliantly organised, a credit to all the staff involved in the day's arrangements. E.g. wood chippings were placed adjacent to our stall, at the marquee entrance, to absorb the accumulating water.



We have two more events planned this year.

1. The West Hallam Ploughing Match at Risley, on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September.
2. The Christmas Fair at Beauvale Priory on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**So please continue to contribution your turned items. It would help tremendously if you would bring some along to the next meeting, Wed. 10<sup>th</sup> September.**

GET YOUR ENGLISH HARD WOODS FROM


**STEVEN WRIGHT**

at

**ELSTON SAW MILL**

Tel: 01636 525 015

Or direct from Steven on club nights



## ITEMS FOR SALE

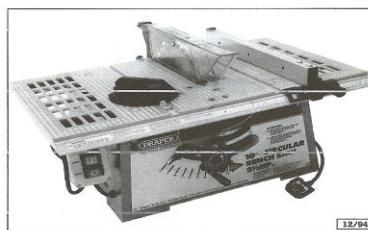


### 10" TABLE SAW

MODEL BTS250	STOCK No.22125
MODEL BTS250A	STOCK No.32078
MODEL BTS250B	STOCK No.33603

#### • INSTRUCTIONS •

IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY TO ENSURE THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF THIS TABLESAW



FOR SALE..  
TABLE SAW MOUNTED ON ENGINEERED MADE METAL STAND IN VERY GOOD CONDITION £65 IF INTERESTED, FOR DETAILS SEE MR DENNIS ROBINSON (CLUB MEMBER).TEL 0115 9636365



SELECTION OF VARIOUS SIZES SEASONED OAK. £22 the lot

SEE DENNIS ROBINSON  
CLUB MEMBER  
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SOLID MOHOGANY TABLE PEDESTAL WITH BRASS SHOE/WHEELS. £25



MOHOGANY BOARDS 44ins x 23/4 x 5/8. £1 each