



Northumbrian Woodturners Weekly Bulletin No8

Northumbrian Woodturners Association continues to offer sincere thanks to all at the NHS and to all those other services and individuals who are helping at this time of National crisis. Our condolences to all those who have lost loved ones and to families of those who have given their lives whilst caring for others

A rare thing happened!! Carl Burn paid some cash money out (a whole 9 euros) and went online to attend a demonstration on sharpening by Glenn Lucas, (Irish Turner) Carl says that it was by far the best remote demonstration he had seen so far and was well worth the price. In fact he was so impressed he signed up on the spot for his next remote demo on Saturday.

Glenn is planning these on a regular basis so if anyone is interested , you can find out more here:

<https://glennlucaswoodturning.com/product-category/classes/remote-demo/>

There are a limited number of slots at each demo so an email may be in order!
Many Thanks to Carl for the heads up

Martin Stacey has made a CB Radio for his brother. Will it help him stay clear of the smokeys and the bear traps?



A Quick Heads UP for anyone with a Diesel Car – if you have been doing short runs to the Supermarket etc – might be worth a 10 mile run up A1 or similar to get it hot & Burn off the Filter rubbish – the alternative is EXPENSIVE!!!!!!

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THE BIG QUIZ 5

This 20-question quiz also has an added bonus question. The first letters of each correct answer spell out the theme of tonight's quiz.

1. How were Bill Oddie, Tim Brooke-Taylor and Graeme Garden collectively known?
2. For which country did the Welshman, Michael Owen, play international football?
3. Which actor played Neil in 'The Young Ones'?
4. If you are getting off a train at Waverly station, in which UK city would you be?
5. Which country did Ceaucescau rule from 1965-1989?
6. In the theatre what name is given to the part of the stage that projects out into the audience?
7. What animal is associated with the beginning of an MGM film?
8. What is the highest mountain in the Karakorum range of mountains?
9. If you suffer from 'gymnophobia', what are you most afraid of?
10. What was the name of Keith Harris' bird?
11. What does an archer fish shoot at its prey?
12. Which occupation would you associate with Perry Mason?
13. In American football what is the scoring area of the field called?
14. What creature appears on the flag of Wales?
15. What mythical animal had the head and body of a lion and the wings and talons of an eagle?

16. What company of the 101st Airborne Division did the book/TV show, 'Band of Brothers' follow?

17. What can be a slight movement or a container for arrows?

18. What was the world's first nuclear powered aircraft carrier, still in use today?

19. Which Alanis Morissette single features 'a black fly in your chardonnay', and 'rain on your wedding day'?

20. What has the chemical symbol Zn?

BONUS QUESTION - WHAT DOES THE FIRST LETTER OF EACH ANSWER SPELL OUT?

Anyone who would like to look at Borders Newsletter –

<http://www.borderwoodturners.org.uk/newsletters>

and see what they are up to!!

A reminder that the Steve Heeley June Demo is cancelled !!!!!-

Happy 90th Birthday Jonny Oswell.

Jonny Oswell turned 90 last week, “turned” being the operative word in his case. Jonny is still at his lathe most days turning items to raise money for the local cancer charity Daft as a Brush, for years now he has turned items in his shed, building up stock then had a sale with all the proceeds going to Daft as a Brush raising a fair sum for them over the years. With Jonny it’s more a case of him being 90 years young than 90 years old! Happy Birthday Johnny from everyone at Northumbrian Woodturners, hope you have many more years of woodturning.



Not all of our members have been making things from wood. Lorraine Griffiths is making gowns for the community and district nurses for them to wear over their uniforms while doing visits.

Lorraine says: "I was given a bag of donated bedding so have been making them from duvet covers. Quite a few were kiddies sets, so I just hope the nurses have a sense of humour..... they all got bags to match the gowns from the pillow cases. I have been ably assisted throughout by Leo."



John Christie has also been doing his bit for the NHS.

John Says: “Up to my ears in oxygen ventilator flow rate calculations for United Lincolnshire Hospitals & Mid Yorkshire hospitals Trusts (You want to plug how many in?, where? - having a laugh!) as well as handing over a new MRI Scanner at Louth so not had much time to play with shiny new bandsaw, delivered on the Saturday morning before lockdown. And 30 mins later the postman delivered 5 spare blades so good to go! Had good tidy up & did make a lighthouse to amuse the Wee man (Grandson)”



Brian Archer has made a sycamore bowl with an ebonised lacquer rim and a small lidded box in Mukwa, also known as Klatt or Umbilo. The box is finished with Hampshire sheen.



Kevin McAlister's contribution this week is a spalted beech bowl that needed to be soaked in sanding sealer to be able to get a finish. With Powertex cloth texturing.



Doug Basen designed this strange shape box to put a gift inside for his wife's birthday.

Doug says: "Not too happy with the final shape but presented a challenge as to how I could chuck it and indeed get a similar shape each end. In hindsight it needed to be more streamlined. Had to make a tapering wood chuck as inside of box had very little parallel surfaces to work with. I kept tailstock in place as long as I could. This left a very small hole that I filled with a glue mixed with fine shavings and then sanded down by hand"



Frank Bowman's ear ring stand is made from oak whilst the box is 5"x3" and in mahogany



Dog's Head Walking Stick – Part 3

By Mick McCabe



Many hours later the job looks like this, the variation in light and dark is where the hair is finer and less burnt in. You have to try and ignore the shades and see the lines as it will be stained to make it all one shade later. This breed varies from really rough long hair to very fine short hair close together.



Now the task of burning in the hair texture on the whole carving, it's not too bad to do but can't be rushed and needs concentration the whole time not to mention a magnifying visor to see what you're doing.



It's always good to get things in day light once in a while as it shows up most mistakes or areas that need more work. Still undecided about what to do with the eyes at this point.



I got to the point I wanted to get it all one colour so I could judge the hair texture better. It's looking right but some bits need tinkered with. At this point I did not know if I could burn over the spirit stained wood again, it turns out you can but it's not as crisp as bare wood so try to get it right before stain was the lesson learnt.



This photo shows the short fine hair and the long rougher hair textures, the fine was tricky as I had to try and allow for few coats of stain and then satin lacquer to not be able to fill them in.



Finally decided on the eyes and carved out the pupils. Two reasons really one was the grain in the two eyes was different so one soaking the stain and the other one not the same and I thought they eyes did not have the focussed look I wanted. They were carved out with ball tip diamond burr then burnt into the dimple with a ball ended burning tip.



The next bit was as hard as the carving, I had finished carving on roughly square shaft that tapered to the carved area and a stick to mount it on. The only way I could shape the handle was to mount it to the stick shaft then hold it by the shaft in the vice. Then just do it all by eye, shaping with rasps, files and sand paper without spoiling the stick or carving !



This is the finished result the top light handle part is the same bit of lime wood the head is carved out of, this tapers down and is separated from the holly shaft of the stick by a bone spacer then buffalo horn then another bone spacer and the handle and stick gloss lacquered but the head stain lacquered. The bottom was fitted with a brass ferrule.



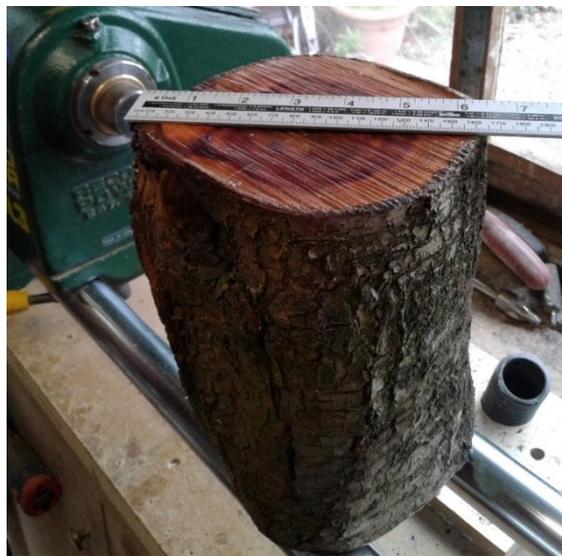
The finished thing I think anyone with the breed would know it was a German Wirehaired pointer and has the focussed look they tend to have while seeing if there is any game about the area. The holly shaft of the stick is not really the best example but I cut it while out walking with Stig so seems more fitting to be on a stick carved like him. Plenty lessons learnt during the project and bits I think could be improved as always but overall happy with the way it turned out. Hope everyone has enjoyed seeing the process. Thanks Mick

Natural edge wet turned bowl

By Ian Elliott

I was given a few logs about 18 months or so ago, by my daughter who lives in the Lake District. I was told that they were Cherry and they had just been felled. I coated the ends with watered down PVA glue and stacked them on a rack in our back garden to air dry.

Last weekend I selected a branch section and checked the Moisture Content (MC), it was about 30%. 210mm long x 160mm dia. with no splits or major cracks.



As I have done very little wet turning I thought it was about time I gave it a go. The timber decided it would be a natural edge bowl. I Selected what would be the bottom and what would be the top, the inclusion would be in the bottom (at that point I did not know if it would be a feature or turned out).

Next thing to consider was how I was going to hold it on the Lathe. My normal preference would be a faceplate ring fitted into a chuck. However as the surface that would be at the top on this log was so uneven that option was not suitable. So, I decided to use a 2 1/8" Forstener bit on a pillar drill to form a mortice for my 50mm jaws. I had to cut some of the bark away to get the best grip possible I also used the tail stock for support. The photograph below was taken after I had turned the bottom.



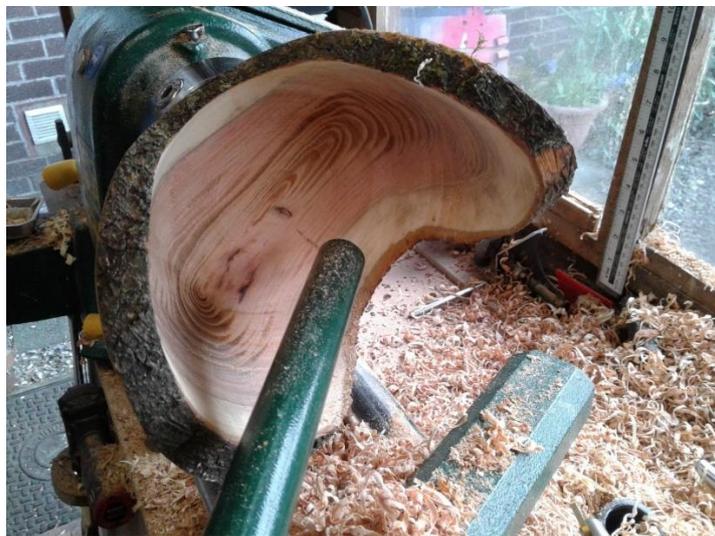
Whilst turning the bowl no moisture was being sprayed out. This was as expected as the MC reading, I got was 30%. At 30% the cells of the timber are not holding moisture within the cells themselves. The moisture is contained within the fibre of the cell walls (known as **Bound Moisture**). For a MC of above 30% moisture is also held within the cells themselves (known as **Free Moisture**).

In our climate timber that is fully air dried will normally be around 20% but kiln dried timber will be 12%. Though as timber is hygroscopic it will continue to take in or give out moisture depending on the relative humidity and temperature of the atmosphere around it.

As I did not want to have the task of holding the finished bowl to remove a foot, I decided to turn a mortice whilst turning the bottom, rather than a tenon.



I reverse chucked it and turned the inside to an even wall thickness of around 18mm. Upon removing it from the lathe it still had a 30% MC and weighed 683g.



It is now in my shed, inside an old pillowcase filled with its own shavings, as I did not have a paper bag. I will check MC and weight every couple of weeks till its around 15% or so, then return it to the lathe to finish.

I do hope I can show you the finished bowl on a club night rather than in a Bulletin and we are not still on lockdown.

Keep Safe and well.