



WOODBITS

NEWSLETTER

Issue 180

May 2021

Welcome

SHAVINGS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hello!

I'm writing this the day after a very significant (dare I say exciting?) committee meeting held on the 1st June where we discussed resuming our meetings at Adeyfield. We are still optimistic that resumption will proceed on the 13th July but are waiting for the final decision by the government on the removal of all Covid social distancing restrictions on the 21st June. That decision will be announced on the 14th June.

If all restrictions are eased members may still be asked to sanitise their hands on entry to the community centre plus any other minor restrictions requested by the community centre management and your committee.

If there is a delay in the easing of restrictions we think that it will still be possible to use the hall but numbers attending may have to be restricted. The current 17th May ruling is:

People can attend indoor and outdoor events, including live performances, sporting events and business events. Attendance at these events is capped according to venue type, and attendees should follow the COVID-secure measures set out by those venues.

In any event we will be meeting with Scott (the community centre manager) sometime after the 14th June to discuss our use of the hall in the light of the latest ruling. We will then be able to make a final decision and let you all know the outcome.

Future Adeyfield Meetings

Just a reminder of what we hope to have in store for you (Many thanks to Grahame Tomkins for managing the bookings so ably):

13th July, What better way to celebrate resumption with a demonstration by Gary Rance. Possibly also some "Show and Tell" tables for members to exhibit their "Lockdown Masterpieces".

10th August, demonstration by Les Thorne

14th September, demonstration by Mick Hanbury

Zoom Meetings

I hope that everyone enjoyed as much as I did the IRD given to the club by Emma Cook "The Tiny Turner" last month. It was on Turning a Free Standing LED Lamp. For those of you who missed the demo it can be viewed on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/zmS1ZpLBAOk>

Our next club Zoom on the 8th June is another “Home Grown” one making use of our talented club members. There will be two presentations by Peter Hoare and Martin Gomme. Unfortunately I’m going to be away for that but am most grateful to our treasurer Adam Blackie who has kindly volunteered to chair the meeting in my absence. If there are no objections the meeting will be recorded and put on our YouTube channel where I will look forward to catching up with all the action. This may well be our last Zoom meeting for now.

I can’t believe that we are already almost half way through 2021! Hopefully we can all look forward to better times ahead but in the meantime enjoy another great Woodbits, keep making shavings and stay safe!

Tim

Tim Pettigrew

Chairman

Tim’s contact details:

chairman@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk

Chairman: Tim Pettigrew chairman@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk

Treasurer: Adam Blackie treasurer@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk

Secretary: Allen Kaye secretary@hertsandbedswoodturners.co.uk

Club News

Items for the Sale Table

Bearing in mind the proposed resumption at Adeyfield, Derek (Stephens) who is in charge of the Sales Table is looking for new donations from members. Start putting suitable items on one side from now on and bring them along for Derek on the 13th July. On a more sombre and sadder note there is also the possible sale of equipment and wood from Colin Clark's workshop.

Herts & Beds Woodturners on YouTube

For those who may have missed the AGM or other previous Zoom meetings edited versions are now also available on YouTube Hit the subscribe button if you want to keep up with any additions.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqMOhpzlhngggiQzvDqellkiAKBaT5q5A>

The AGM includes the business meeting (the first 46 minutes of the video), followed by an extremely lively "Show and Tell" session.

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Report from May Zoom – Tony Taylor

TURNING A FREE-STANDING USB POWERED FAIRY LIGHT LAMP Emma Cook - The Tiny Turner

This demonstration, live on Zoom, showed how to make the stand for an LED globe light and to fit the lights. It involved end grain and cross grain turning and colouring with spirit stains and gilt cream. Emma has kindly made the demonstration available on Youtube, (link below) so this will be just a brief summary.

<https://youtu.be/zmS1ZpLBAOk>

The wood chosen was Ash in the form of a 5 x 5 x 2 inch piece for the base and a 2 x 2 x 6 inch piece for the stem. The base square was mounted between centres and rounded with a straight grind bowl gouge. Emma showed how to make a finishing cut by presenting the gouge at 45 degrees, the flute at about 11 o'clock and advancing slowly. A chucking spigot was cut on the upper surface and this set in the chuck to allow the



bottom to be first trued then a chucking mortice cut and decorated with beads. Ideally a bead should have been formed on the lower edge at this stage, but it was actually done after reverse mounting and shaping the upper surface. This made it difficult to avoid some grain tear-out.

A recess was cut to receive the stem and a space hollowed to accommodate the LED cable. Sanding was taken to 400 grit.

The stem was mounted between centres, rounded with a spindle roughing gouge and a chucking spigot cut at each end. This enabled a 7 mm hole to be drilled from each end for the lamp lead. The stem was then shaped and a spigot cut on the lower end to fit the base. At the upper end a hollow was formed to receive the glass globe. This should be a loose fit. Sanding was again taken to 400 grit, but with additional lengthwise sanding at each stage to avoid circular scratches which would show up with staining. It was parted off, as both parts were to be coloured off the lathe.

The first step in colouring was to mask the beads with shellac sealer applied with a brush. When this was dry, blue spirit stain was applied with a brush in several coats, carefully avoiding the beads. Once the stain was thoroughly dry, gilt cream was applied liberally. This was allowed to dry then buffed to highlight the grain. To fit the LEDs a 4 mm hole was drilled radially through the base into the central space. The 5 meters of lead was fed through the base and the stem, before the stem was glued in place. Finally, the LED string was fed into the globe and this in turn glued to the stem. The glue used was Fix All Crystal – chosen because it is flexible when set, so allowing for some movement of the wood.

This was a very nicely prepared and delivered demonstration. There was opportunity for questions and discussion and members showed a lively interest. The glass globe and LED strings are available from Emma's shop with a 10% discount (code HERTSBEDS21).

Emma also provided a useful list of materials

Following on from the online remote demonstration of turning a free-standing USB powered fairy light lamp, I have compiled a list of chisels/equipment/components used throughout the the course of the evening. However, it is important to note this is meant only as a guide - you don't need the exact same chisels/equipment/components that I personally use!

Tool List:

- 1/4 inch bowl gouge
- 3/8 spindle gouge
- Spindle rouging gouge (any size)
- Parting chisel
- Beading-parting tool (optional)

Equipment List:

- 2 x Steb centres (or a drive and revolving centre) - I used a stubby chuck Steb which went straight into the jaws of the chuck. An alternative one is made by Chronos (which is much cheaper) or Charnwood
- Chuck (Axminster SK100 with C Jaws)
- 4mm or 5mm drill bit (engineering bit and preferably NOT a lip and spur bit)
- 6mm or 7mm drill bit
- Jacobs chuck
- Drill (and a hand drill for piloting - optional)
- Giant (10cm) Lamp Kit with whichever colour of fairy lights you choose - battery or LED available from my website www.thetinyturner.co.uk
- Microfibre cloth
- Stanley knife
- Vernier calipers
- Towel for removing excess Gilt Cream

Timber List:

- 2" square by 6" long spindle blank of your choosing (I turn mine to approx. 4 1/2 inches long when finished)
 - 5" square by 2" deep cross-grain blank to match your spindle blank
- Oak or ash (I used ash during the demo) are excellent for embellishing grain due to their open grain texture. Alternatively, Sycamore is brilliant for staining (like the example piece shown at the start of the demo) - especially if it is rippled

Finishes List:

- Abrasives (I use Chestnut Products Net Abrasive)
- Chestnut Products Cut 'n' Polish (Yorkshire Grit is a similar product but needs sanding sealer applying first as a base)
- Chestnut Products Microcrystalline Stick Wax
- Chestnut Products Spirit Stains - Royal Blue was used on during the demo (an alternative option is Ebonising Lacquer to use as a base to Gilt Cream)

- Chestnut Products Shellac Sanding Sealer
- Chestnut Products Silver Gilt Cream
- Chestnut Products Safety Cloth
- Paint Brushes
- Clear, flexible-drying adhesive such as Soudal Fix All Crystal or EvoStick Serious Glue

PPE List:

- JSP Powercap (with impact resistance face shield - I bought mine from Yandles)
- Calosport antistatic spray (available through Amazon)

I offer all the timber and components to make your own hanging ornament in kit form; along with various other timbers, woodturning project kits and finishing products via my website at: <https://www.thetinyturner.co.uk>

Members Projects

Back to Basics (with a twist) – Terania Hird

A multi purpose Potpourri pot, tea light holder, a stand alone tea lightholder and if you like a bit of nonsense, a 1950s style flying saucer.

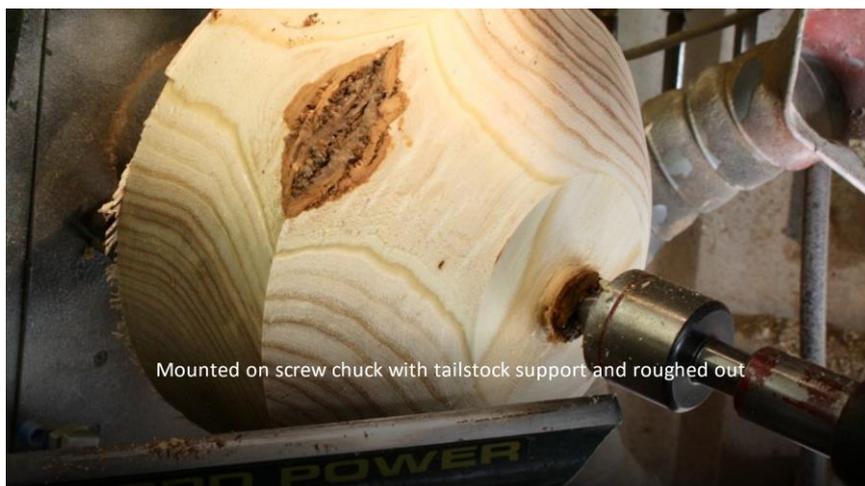
Sapele and Elm finished with Yorkshire Grit Original, MyMix friction polish & Hampshire Sheen Microcrystalline wax.

Not sure if this is an original design or whether it has been done before.

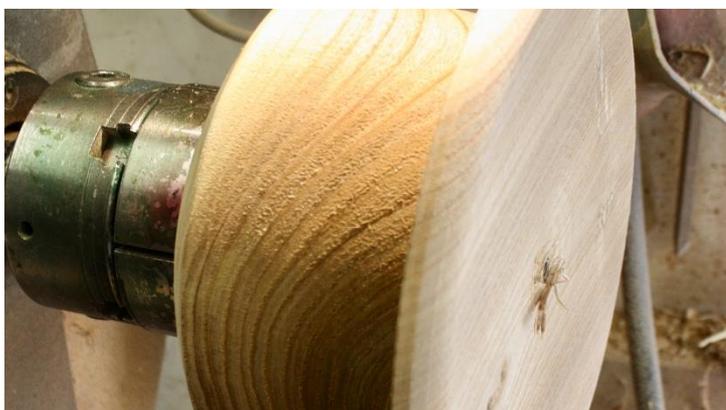


Hat Making – Tony Taylor

For this project I used fresh unseasoned wood. For first stage of roughing out I used a screw chuck and then formed a tenon



The block was then mounted by the tenon at the crown end using dovetail jaws and the bottom flattened. This end will be the rim of the hat. The rim is then developed and the crown reduced somewhat.



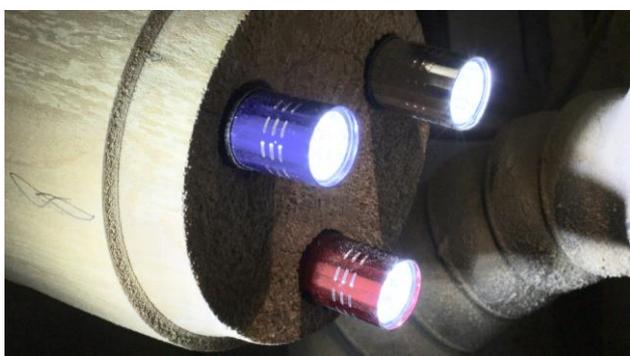
Using a light behind to show the thickness clearly, the rim is thinned to 3mm. The hat is also hollowed at this stage.





Using my hollowing jig, the hollowing is completed.

The hat was then remounted using a jam chuck to finish off the top. Lighting the inside with three LED torches attached to the inside of the jam chuck allowed me to thin down the top of the hat consistently until light showed through.



The hat is

then clamped in a jig to shape it. Held with elastic bands, it is left to dry slowly. The band 'ribbon' is added using wax pencils.

Sanded, sealed and lacquered, the finished hat is about 2/3 life size. Now looking for a larger block to make a full size one!



CNC'd Platter Allen Kaye

I have been experimenting in the use of a CNC machine to carve rims on platters. My first attempts were not successful as I tried to rout the text or graphic on one side and a mounting recess on the other. Registering the reversed position was very difficult and also it proved impossible to get sufficiently consistent thickness – even with a thicknesser.

Now I rout a recess on the same side as the rim as below. Mounting into this allowed me to then turn the outside and create a chucking point on the bottom which was then by definition exactly parallel to the top surface.

I create a second recess in the bottom normally but in this instance because the platter was so thin, I glued a scrap piece on the bottom and turned it round to make a tenon. Once the inside was finished, I re-mounted it in a Longworth chuck, removed the scrap wood tenon and finished the base.



in
(as
for



This example is American walnut and you can see) was a 99th birthday.



Finishing Notes

I was asked to include the Chestnut Compatibility Chart again. You can download an A4 version for free but full A3 size laminated versions are available to buy from the Chestnut website

FIRST COAT		How to use this Chart.	
		Select your first coat from the list, and follow the line across. Y = Yes, you can use the coating indicated as the next coat. Repeat for each change of product.	
Acrylic Gloss Lacquer		Acrylic Lacquer	
Acrylic Satin Lacquer		Acrylic Sanding Sealer (both)	
Acrylic Sanding Sealer (Aerosol)	Y	Burnishing Cream	Y
Acrylic Sanding Sealer	Y	Cellulose Sanding Sealer	
Acrylic Lacquer	Y	Finishing Oil	
Burnishing Cream		Food Safe Finish	
Cellulose Sanding Sealer	Y	French Polish	
Cut'n Polish		Friction Polish	
Ebonising Lacquer		Hard Wax Oil	
Finishing Oil	Y	Lemon Oil	
Food Safe Finish		Melamine Lacquer	Y
French Polish		Shellac Sanding Sealer	
Friction Polish	Y	Tung Oil	
Gilt Cream		Acrylic Gloss Lacquer	Y
Hard Wax Oil	Y	Acrylic Satin Lacquer	Y
Iridescent Paint	Y	Ebonising Lacquer	Y
Lemon Oil		Melamine Gloss Lacquer	
Liming Wax		Liming Wax	
Liquid Wax Clear		Wood Wax 22	Y
Melamine Lacquer		Microcrystalline Wax	Y
Melamine Gloss Lacquer	Y	Cut'n Polish	Y
Microcrystalline Wax		Woodturners Stick Wax	Y
Pine Stain	Y	Carnauba Wax Stick	Y
Shellac Sanding Sealer		Microcrystalline Wax Stick	Y
Spirit Stain	Y	Spirit Stain	
Tung Oil	Y	Liquid Wax	
Wood Wax 22		Pine Stain	
		Gilt Cream	
		Iridescent Paint	
		Buffing Wheel Kit	Y

Chestnut Products Compatibility Chart

NEXT COAT/PROCESS

Woodturning sessions on-line

Apart from our own Zoom sessions there are others that members might want to participate in. If you do come across any others one that look useful please let me know and I will include the details in next month's Woodbits. There are many turners and also clubs offering Zoom and youtube sessions now. I will try to keep track of recommended ones here in the newsletter and by email but you may want to register with some of these directly to ensure you get reminders and details delivered straight into your inbox.

Chestnut Products CONKERS sessions

Dates already published for these free sessions

- 23 June 2021
- 14 July 2021
- 2 August 2021
- 26 August 2021

Check out their website and sign up if you want reminders and updates

<https://chestnutproducts.co.uk/conkers-live/>

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AWGB Talking Turning Online Sessions

The sessions have changed focus and AWGB will be talking about various turning subjects and having Q&A during the sessions. These are all free of charge to anyone wanting to participate and you can connect from almost any internet enabled device. Check out the link below.

<https://www.awgb.co.uk/talking-turning-zoom-sessions/>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Please register in advance to ensure you receive the email with meeting details.

The meetings are at 7:30pm GMT every Tuesday and Friday evening. They will open the meeting at 7:15pm to allow everyone time to get connected before the meeting.

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Record Power free interactive demonstrations

It is difficult to keep up with their new demos here when this newsletter is published only once per month.

Record Power are arranging many demonstrations and the best way to keep up is to register yourself directly with them to receive your invites and up to date lists of what is happening. Don't forget to check the time in our own time zone as some of these are international,

Simply send an email with RSVP in the subject line to miked@recordpower.co.uk – and they will reserve a spot for you. Your log in details will be sent in return.

For sale and wanted

Nothing reported to me this month but as Tim mentioned in his shavings, you might want to think about our plans for a big sale of items once we get back to meeting in Adeyfield. If you have been tidying your workshop or maybe buying new tools then remember that you can always bring redundant stuff to sell at the meetings. Things can be donated or you can offer a small percentage of anything sold to club funds.

If you want more detail about how you can dispose of items at future meetings then contact Derek Stephens

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Poetry Corner

The Shape of Things to Come

Such sonorous notes from a father's gift
For us all to hear with such sweet lift
What privilege for sons to receive
Their future secured we must believe
My gift would be clay or iron products thing
Somehow without a similar ring
Remain content my boys, as loved you are
So sorry to leave that door ajar
Enjoy instead this rendering
Of a blissful song which IL VOLO so bring
They are only three but sound like seven

To listen <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Oyna1ds6lo>

martin sexton 6 May 2021

