



WEST SUSSEX WOODTURNERS

NEARLY LOCKDOWN 2020 NEWSLETTER

EDITION 3

An Associated Club of the AWGB

Welcome to the Nearly Lockdown Newsletter Edition 3.

The Wheezy Turner has been brought out of semi-retirement having spent the last few weeks pickling onions, beetroot and eggs. Beth bought home a 10 kilo bag of pickling onions and said “how about us getting some onions pickled for Christmas”. Normally Sally (my wife) would do this but she is currently unavailable for domestic duties. It sounded like a great idea and it was only then I realised that what she meant was you can pickle the onions as she was very busy at work and with her other leisure activities.

So we come to the turning item. This will be a small hollow form with a finial. The timber is Laburnum for the main body. The tree from which the timber came had only been felled about 4 months ago.



I realised that my gouges could do with some sharpening so resorting to my incredibly fantastic Pro-edge I proceeded to sharpen my Spindle Roughing gouge and a Bowl gouge.



Some of you who have put their glasses on to read this may have spotted that the photos are slightly out of focus. Do you know how difficult it is to try to photograph yourself sharpening a gouge????

So now I rounded down the timber with my trusty Spindle Roughing gouge. It's getting a bit old now (a bit like me) and needs to be re-sharpened fairly often (a bit like me).



The shaping of the piece was done with a double ended Bowl gouge and handle as supplied by Hope Woodturning.



I think the advantage of this type of handle is that you can vary the length of the tool, hopefully giving better control.



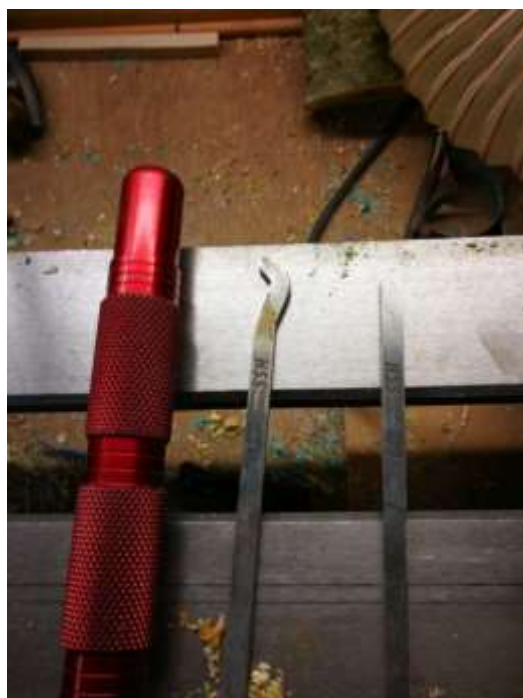
The silvery bit is the end of the handle with a built in Allen key to loosen or tighten the screws holding the tool. The theory is that you put it back in the handle and, therefore, you never lose the Allen key, but with the shaft of the tool pushed into the handle the end bit doesn't fit.

Having shaped the body the next step is to hollow it out.



I start out by drilling a hole with an 8mm Brad point drill bit in the Jacob's chuck.

I was using the Sorby Micro tools as the piece was fairly small. I started with a Round Nosed Scraper and then switched to a Swan-neck Scraper.



These, of course, cannot be sharpened on either the Pro-edge or any other mechanical sharpening system. I use a Diamond file as shown in the first picture using water as a lubricant. If you don't have water readily available you can use a little "Tongue Oil". (No it's not a spelling mistake it just sounded better than saying you can spit on the file).

The next step was to sand the piece.



I started with 120, then 240, 320 and finished with 400 grit using abrasive supplied by the club shop.

I then applied some Chestnut Finishing Oil, the main reason being that as the wood was still fairly wet I hoped the oil would prevent it cracking.



Having left the piece for a couple of days for the oil to dry I found that the grain had lifted so I applied some more of the oil and sanded it again with 400 grit.

.....TO BE CONTINUED.....

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS:

If you are looking for ideas on Christmas decorations look at the Axminster YouTube channel as Colwin Way has been doing a series on this subject.

BREAKING NEWS:

Axminster Tools have just brought out a new catalogue. Check their website for details. It's more or less the same as the previous one but most of the prices have increased.

NEXT MONTH:

The next thrilling instalment will be on turning the finial. Please bear in mind I am not Gary Parkinson so the finial is not likely to be an incredibly fine piece of work.

MEMBERS SHOW AND TELL TABLE:

See the Club's website for examples of work done by club members.