

## West Suffolk Woodturning Club Meeting - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021

It was a very wet Monday evening but we were not disappointed with lack of attendees, and had a total of twenty five people attend this meeting, including five new guests.

A note that it is very important that all members must sign in at the door on arrival.

The hall was noticeable much brighter after the hall renovations which helped the demonstrators.

This was our usual multi-turn meeting and we were not disappointed. Three lathes were running via Ian Cameron, Mike Charnley and Stuart Clarke.

Tic had set up her art stand and was allowing member to try Pyrography and Airbrushing. She also showed some experiments with new metallic type water-based paints.



### Ian Cameron

There was some fabulous off centre turning techniques being shown by Ian Cameron who was making some off centre turned 'ladies' with a matching hat.



Ian explained the technique of offset turning using simple spindle holding with a steb centre at the headstock end. After forming the 'head' Ian used a rotating cup to support it at the tailstock when changing the offsets. He did not sand and finish them as he was just showing the technique.



One thing he pointed out was that It is important that you remember to change the offset to make sure the lady is anatomically correct!

It was fascinating to watch and a good demonstration.

Ian also allowed two of our younger visitors to try their hand at roughing down which was very much appreciated, their father suggesting that they may demand use of 'his' lathe from now on.

### Mike Charnley

Mike had a wonderful setup, with an impressive large selection of tools and his CDB sharpening wheel.

As Mike explained; Cubic Boron Nitride (CBN) grinding wheels use synthetic industrial diamonds. Producing less friction and therefore less heat they cut efficiently and produce few sparks, cut quickly and efficiently.

Mike was in his element explaining different techniques to members as well as newcomers. Mike worked on several projects during the evening.



Our youngest member, Oskar, was given a 'Masterclass' from Mike that included how to set up the timber correctly and tool holding technique.

Mike instructed Oskar how to make a bowl while Oskar's father looked on proudly.

Needless to say young Oskar's face was beaming at his delight with his woodturning and his completed bowl under Mike's guidance.





Mike also brought along some wonderful tools.

### Stuart Clarke

Pens were the order of the day for Stuart.

Stuart has a very good setup for making small wooden pens, he showed several pieces of equipment and an assembly jig. He also took some standard wood and applied colour to make it look like a more expensive timber and assembled one to the delight of those watching.

Stuart also showed Acrylic turning. This produced lots of long strings that wound themselves neatly around his mandrel and stuck to his lathe with the static that forms when turning this material.

Care had to be taken to avoid chipping of the material through incorrect technique and it's equally as important to use correct technique. Stuart used very high grit abrasives to bring it to a mirror shine.



Turning Acrylic



Some of Stuart's pen assembly equipment

## Tic Challis

Tic was in good form as usual, even displaying her moves with her airbrushing dance! She explained that like turning the best results can be achieved by moving the body not just the arm.

She had several pieces of seasonal Halloween netting that she used as a very simple mask to make some impressive patterns. She demonstrated how to use some other masks including cog pattens to achieve overlapped masking, several members had a go and where pleased with their attempts.

Tic also had one of Woodart products pyrography machines in use. She had set up some light timber and again members were allowed to have a go with the small Nichrome wire tipped 'pens'. Several people had a go while Tic explained the required heat settings for best results, how to shade and proper line techniques.



Tic had recently purchased some very impressive metallic watercolour paints.

They had a particularly good reflective depth to them, especially considering that they are water based.

The set had six shades from Chrome and Copper through to deep shades of Gold.

Tic was using the paints with good effect to infill and apply detail to her finished and intricate pyrography work.



## Display table

All items on the display table this month were made by Tic.

She displayed two mixed media cockerels. She had turned the dark coloured body and adorned it with beautiful coloured textiles to form the wings, tail and crown.

Tic uses recycled parts and hardware whenever possible, in these it included the wonderful fork feet.



Tic also showed a selection of her turned and very detailed pyrographed button broaches.

Each one was approximately 50mm or less and incorporates a glued pin for attachment.



Halloween cat..



### **Finally..**

It was a very good, fun and convivial meeting although we need to make a slight apology to all those that attended, as we hadn't got everything set up before members started to arrive. It was a busy day and things were running slightly late. The members who usually help set up were busy setting up their equipment to demonstrate.

We would appreciate it if members could help set up and clear down at the end of meetings as there is a lot to do, especially now due to hall and club covid rules.

Thank you, Christine and John, for providing the much-needed refreshments. We do require other members to offer their help with this in future meetings please.

And finally, a huge thank you to those members who provided the demonstrations with their own equipment: Tic Challis, Ian Cameron, Stuart Clarke, and Mike Charnley.

### **Upcoming meetings:**

15<sup>th</sup> November - AGM, Social and Malcolm Fox Challenge

The Challenge, (carried forward from last year) is 'a Christmas Decoration' Peter Taylor – a tribute to Peter and his work.

20<sup>th</sup> December - Talk by 'Woodart Products' & social evening

Enjoy your turning and craft, see you all at the AGM in November.

Neil Robertson