

# Making Shavings

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## Welcome to your April newsletter

As you may have seen in the previous issue I offered to take over production of the newsletter from Gordon Blake because of all his family commitments at the moment. Please bear with me while I sort out the logistics of pulling together competition scores, demo reports and pictures. In order to put out a newsletter in April I have had to go ahead without many images from the 6<sup>th</sup> April meeting, both from the demos and competitions. If you have anything I might be able to use please let me know and I can include a catch-up in the next issue. If you have any thoughts or ideas for articles or news items that we might add, again let me know. In the meantime I'll try and maintain “business as usual”. I like Gordon's “Woodturner showcase” idea and will be bringing you my own selections.

*Martin Gomme*

## Saturday 6th April Demo

Our Chairman Iain Sutherland has already emailed an interim report on what was an unusual, but in the end successful meeting: our expected visiting demonstrator did not arrive, leaving a room of 47 paid members and visitors wondering what was going to happen. With no prior preparation several club members stepped in so that we had a full day of demonstrations and talks.

Brian Wilmhurst was the first man up; he found a piece of fence post from the decking project outside and started us off with a brilliant demonstration using off-centre turning to create a standing figure.

Harry Miller then took a slightly different slant on off-centre turning and gave a talk on creating a measured diagram to enable a set of identical cabriole table legs to be made. Our AV system allowed Harry to show and refer to some quickly drawn up (and very necessary!) diagrams to help his presentation. He also showed a diagram to assist with working out diameters and thicknesses of layers when planning a laminated bowl.

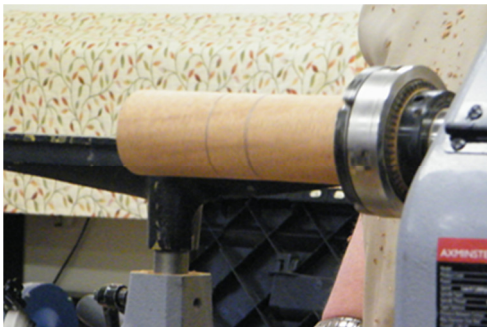
Trevor Fackrell “borrowed” a short log of Foxglove Tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*) from Paul Yandell and mounting it crosswise on the lathe gave us a demonstration of natural edge turning. Trevor started by taking off the corners and used a mixture of pull-cuts and uphill and downhill cuts to take the thickness down to around ¼”.

Then it was back to off-centre turning. Having popped home for supplies and tools, Derek Lane entertained us with a demonstration on turning a box with an offset lid using the Axminster eccentric spiralling chuck, then using a second set of adjustments to create a patterned top on the lid. Derek did remarkably well considering he had only had the chuck for a couple of weeks and had not yet read the instructions. Also, full credit to Derek for using the purchase of the eccentric chuck to then justify the purchase of a whole new chuck to hold it!

The members much appreciated these four people stepping in to give what became a day full of entertainment and interest.

## Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April demo: “Saving the World by not Using Plastic” – Iain Sutherland

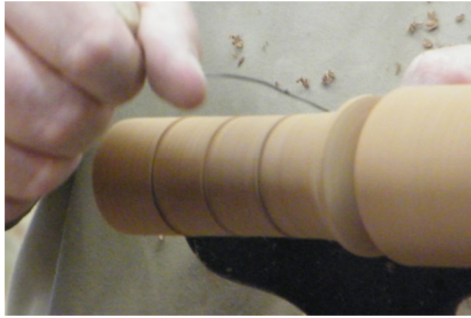
It fell to our Chairman to provide tonight’s demo, which was a highly environmentally-friendly pot-maker comprising a dibber and cup. Not only does it recycle old newspaper, the pots are bio-degradable, and they make plastic pots unnecessary. There is plenty of scope for individual design and different pot sizes.



A spindle blank is gripped in chuck jaws, taken to round and marked out into three sections: the press, its handle and the base.

A slight taper is turned to make it easier to take the paper pots off. A recess is turned in the end.





A point tool and wire burning can be used to give a guide for different pot sizes. The knob/handle is then turned and after sanding the dibber is parted off. Sanding off the edges makes pot release easier.

After cleaning up the face of the piece left in the chuck the dibber is offered up so that a recess can be marked. A parting tool cuts the groove. After sanding the base section parted off.



The finished set with paper pot.

Tip: damping the bottom edge of the newspaper makes it easier to form the pot.

## Woodturner profile

Gordon has previously showcased turners whose work he likes or admires and I'd like to continue in a similar vein.

My first choice is **Benoit Averly**.



Benoît lives and works in Burgundy (France). Nowadays he describes himself as a sculptor. Born in 1980, he started woodturning aged 22, turned professional in 2003 and quickly gained recognition in several countries. Although largely self-taught he regards Richard Raffan as a mentor and worked as his assistant in 2004. He mainly works with locally-sourced timbers such as oak, ash, walnut and cherry.

He states that that his work is primarily about lines and shape and he likes to apply texture. Initially well-known for his boxes, he increasingly works on large sculptures and wall-plaques.

"For my work, I combine elements of both turning and carving. I simply see woodturning as carving with a lathe. When I need something round, I use the lathe. Woodturning is not a religion and I don't have a contract with the lathe so I don't feel like I have to use it all the time.

"For my carvings, I use an Arbortech and a Dremel with a Rotary Chisel made by Don Hines (from Creative Technologies). I think this is one of the best bits there is. I use many different finishes on my work: for black, I use leather dye or a cellulose-based dye; I ebonise some pieces with vinegar and rust; and I also use Danish oil and a wax on most of my work.

"Other equipment I use includes a chainsaw, a large band saw and a Short Bed Stubby lathe. My hand tools are quite simple and I don't own many fancy tools. One of my favourite tools is the skew chisel and I use this a lot when I turn."



Information drawn from:

Benoit's website <http://benoitaverly.com>

Woodturning magazine article Feb 2009

## Forthcoming events

Our next club meetings are:

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Record Power Demo Day at Stiles & Bates (*Show deals available*)

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May – club meeting: guest professional demonstrator Paul Howard.

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Axminster Tools (Bobbing) – Woodturning and colouring with Jason Smith.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May – club meeting: demonstrator Steve Dickens.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May - Axminster Tools (Bobbing) – Turned Boxes with Jason Breach.

*Please check times and details with S&B and Axminster before making a journey*

**Key:**

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
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**2019 Competition Results – Novice Category**

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Total
Simon Keen	23	16											39
Carl Clarke	19	14											33
Roy Claris	13												13
Len Coombs	13												13
Fred Long	18	18											36
Dudley Gore	14												14

**2019 Competition Results – Enhanced Category**

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	TOTAL
Nick Harden	28												28
Des Beal	28	24											52
Simon Keen	22	26											48
Brian Bailey	26												26
Trevor Fackrell	27	30											57
John Edgeworth	26	27											53
Carl Clarke	20	25											45
Gordon Blake		33											33
Bob Edom		27											27

**2019 Competition Results – Senior Category**

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Total
Gordon Duxbury	25.5	25.5											51
Derek Lane	23.5	23.5											47
Derek Wheeler	14.5	17											31.5
Des Beal	15.5	17.5											33
Nick Harden	26	23											49
Paul Yandell	16.5	21											37.5
Mike Blundy	17.5												17.5
Derek Harris		21											21
Colin Knight		20											20
Les Hetherington		21											21
John Reynolds		19											19
Roy Bridgeland		16											16

Details and pictures of Monthly Competition winners and “People’s Choice” winners will hopefully be included next month.