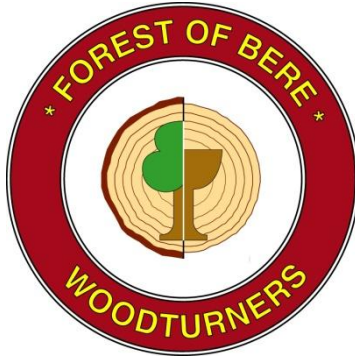


Forest of Bere Woodturners Association



Summer 2010 Edition

Quarterly Magazine

Contents

Advertisements	2	The Junior Section.....	13/14
Editorial	3	Advertisement.....	15
A Message from the Chairman	4	Advertisement.....	16
Advertisement.....	5	Water Displacement 40.....	17
Welcome to New Members.....	5	Photo Gallery.....	18/19
Thread Chasing.....	6/8	West's Wood Show.....	20/21
Novelty Items.....	8/9	An Evening with Mark Sanger.....	22/23
Embroidered Badges.....	9	Mushroom Box.....	24/25
FoB Open Weekend.....	10/14	Advertisements.....	26/27
Les Thorne Demonstration.....	12/13	Committee Details 2009-2010.....	28



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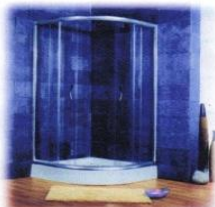
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It has been a busy Spring for woodturners.

We have been informed, encouraged and entertained by professional turners Les Thorne, Mark Sanger and, at the West's show, Margaret Garrard.

Thanks are due to our own Don Smith, Bill Thorne, Derek Blake, David Comley, Robin Lacey, Mike Haselden, Mick Giles, John Jenkins, who have all shared their skills and ideas with us at club Turn-ins, on the club website and in this magazine.



In this issue, two show reports recall the spirit and the substance of our own Open Weekend and the West's Wood Show; any repetition in these items is purely for emphasis!

The textured bowl by Les Thorne and hollow forms by Mark Sanger both suggest techniques perhaps untried by most of us, techniques that might be applied to other projects in our individual repertoires.

The Mushroom Box, by John Hilton, is offered as a practice piece, it may also be the perfect opportunity to try out the Thread Chasing explained in John Jenkins' article.

We have thoughts on turning caricatures from Kim Rogers and everything you need to know about the ubiquitous WD 40 from Trevor Dobbs.

Thank you to all the contributors and also to David Hutchings and Mick Giles for their articles which could not be fitted into this issue but are available at the club website.

It is encouraging that we have so many members willing to put pen to paper and produce articles for all to see. If you have any tips, techniques, projects, aspirations, successes, failures, difficulties or questions you could add another dimension to your woodturning by writing them down and sending them in.

Rick Smith

Visit the club website

www.forestofberewoodturners.org.uk

to download a full colour copy of the magazine in pdf format.

A Message from the Chairman

Hi everybody,

The April turn-in in was a very successful evening, thanks to all those who participated on the lathes and other projects.

We were invited guests to the West's Wood Show, which was a huge success.

I would like to thank Derek Blake and Dave Jenkins, for their wonderful display of Pens and enthusiasm, Mel Turner with his demonstration on piercing bowls Robin Lacey with his knowledge of Pyrography and Don Smith with his craft table.



The club sent an email thanking West's for their hospitality. A reply has been received inviting us to attend again next year.

I was unable to attend the Masterclass with Andrew Hall, but by all accounts it was a very informative demonstration with a number of members turning his Centurion Helmet and displaying them at the May meeting.

Don Smith took the reins for the May club night, he thought it a very enjoyable evening, with Mark Sanger explaining about Hollow Form vessels with a twist on using different types of Finials.

I would like to thank all those members who arrive early and stay behind at the end of our meetings to help set-up and breakdown the equipment, it really is a great help.

Both charities are going well however we do need more items.

Please keep them coming

Regards; your chairman

Bill

Please bring your work for the Charities Boxes to the monthly meetings. Dave Jenkins, Brian Mitchell, Peter Withers or Ken White will be pleased to advise on production issues, labelling your work and popular items that are in demand.

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A Warm Welcome to New Members

On behalf of the club, I would like to welcome the eight new members who have joined since the Spring 2010 issue of the magazine.

Frank Chatfield • David Marsh • Michael Booth • Tim Allen

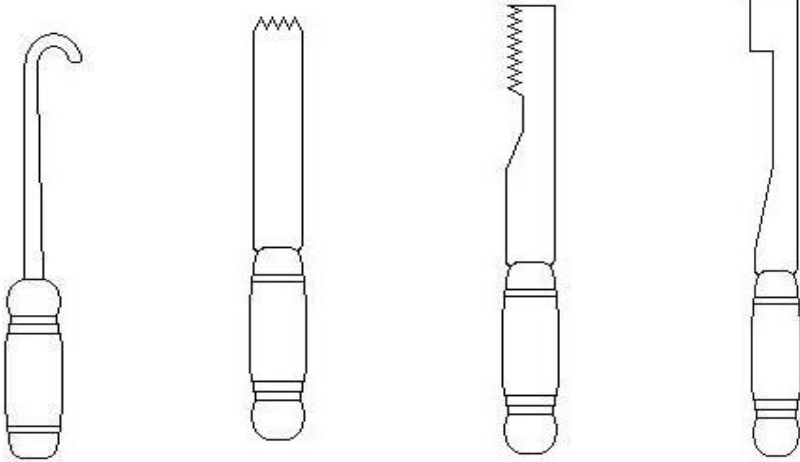
James Gilder • Jamie Fraser • David Reynolds • Harry Barrett

I hope the friendship, the activities and the resources of the club will help you to further enjoy and develop your woodturning. Your feedback on any aspect of the club will be most welcome.

Sadly we note the death of Barry Elkins and offer condolences to his family. Barry joined the Forest of Bere Woodturners in August 2007. Father Mark Whiting, leading his funeral service, said it allowed him to pursue his love of woodturning. Barry won the Don Smith Challenge Cup trophy in 2009, whilst he was ill.

Thread Chasing

Tools required:- Arm Rest, Internal and external thread chasers, Undercutting Tool (made from a thin scraper or firmer wood chisel) and general woodturning tools.



Arm Rest

External Chaser

Internal Chaser

Under cutter

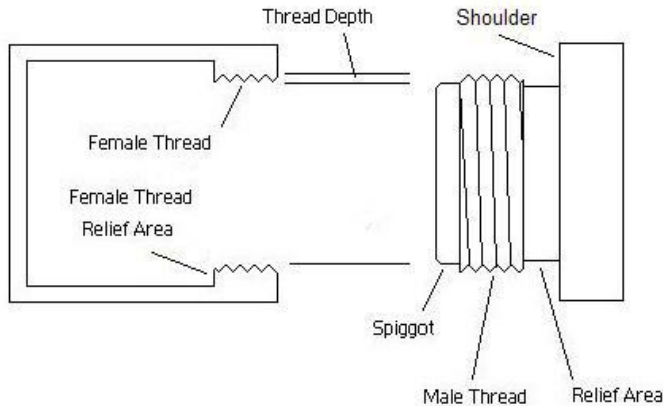
Before you start, make sure that the back surface of the chaser is chamfered and smooth so that it will move freely on the toolrest. Check that the toolrest is free of nicks and dents which may stop the chaser sliding smoothly. Wax the toolrest and all other items that rub together, to help the free movement of the chaser during cutting.

To get a feel for the speed of travel on the male thread, rub the back of the chaser on the wood, it should move along by itself. Try to mimic this movement before you raise the handle of the chaser to start cutting the thread. Once you “**Strike**” the thread, make sure you keep up the movement of the chaser to avoid cutting tramlines. As the cutting progresses clear the shavings off the chaser at the end of each pass by drawing it back between your fingers and thumb before you start the next pass.

Make the female thread first.

When making the male thread, form a spigot on the end of the work that will just fit inside the female thread. The length of the section to be threaded should be increased by at least twice the depth of the thread. Form a relief area giving room to pull out of the thread. On the female thread, this will be the inside cavity of the box or whatever you are making, use the undercutting tool for this section.

Thread Anatomy



When cutting the male thread continue forming until there are signs of the thread on the previously sized spigot. Make sure that the thread is formed parallel on both the male and female sections then try them for fit.

Points to note:-

- Make sure that there is enough female thread to take account of the relief area on the male thread.
- Carry out the thread making as early as possible in the making of the article then build the finished item around the threading.
- You can true up the matching surfaces after assembly of the thread.
- If possible try to match up any grain alignment by removing wood from the relief area shoulder.

Although Thread chasers are available through many woodturning outlets the male and female chasers can be adapted from metal working tools which can generally be purchased much cheaper from car boots, market stalls, second hand shops etc. The Arm rest can be made from an old “Turnscrew”, these days they are called screwdrivers, but the old carbon steel turnscrews are much easier to work if you can get hold of one.

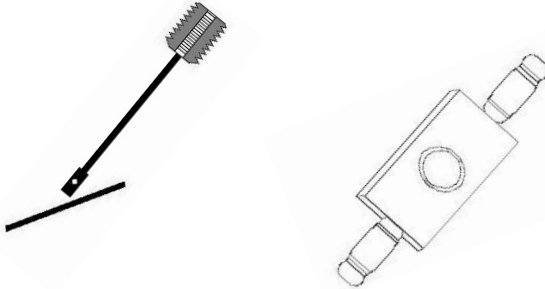
Another way of making an internal chaser is to grind away a couple of the cutting faces of a threading tap leaving one or even two cutting edges, depending on whether it is a three or four flute tap.

In general terms the denser the timber the more suitable it is for threading, an even density is best for consistent results.

Set the lathe to the slowest speed before trying to cut a thread.

It is possible to thread a piece of seasoned beech with 6 or even 8 threads to the inch but generally cutting more threads to the inch requires the use of Box, Ebony or such like timbers, about 16 TPI is normally the finest thread you can expect to be able to work.

If you cannot get a thread to form on the softer timbers and you really need to have a thread then you can always revert to using a tap and a threading box but that might be considered cheating.



John Jenkins

Novelty Items

A new turner may like to consider making some novelty items to help develop turning skills and gain confidence at the lathe. Subjects such as birds, animals or cartoon characters can be explored and provide much fun and practice. Additionally the completed pieces may not be so critically examined as the more commonly turned bowls and spindle work, and possibly, the finish need not be to such a high standard for people to still enjoy what you have made. There is nothing better for your confidence than to hear someone say "That's good", or "I like that" about work you have made.

With novelty items, you can build up the project in small parts, joining them together at the end to complete the piece. I have found that if the parts are made to be 'adjustable', then, at the final assembly a small movement of a head, eyes or legs can change the finished look from how you imagined it, often beneficially, and it may disguise a mistake or two!

If your project is based on a cartoon type character the proportions are not so critical. It will be perfectly acceptable if the head is, perhaps, too big or the legs too long, it will of course have been deliberately planned that way.....

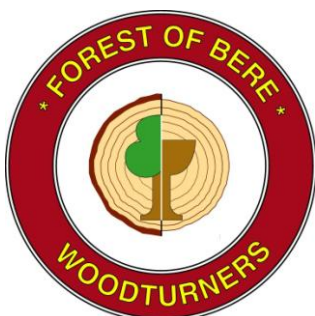
Kim Rogers

Novelty Items



Photos by Ray Matthews

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Forest of Bere Woodturners Association

The Competition Gallery

The winning three were:-

1st Laminated Bowl by John Wyatt (57 points)

2nd Clock by Ken White (51 points)

3rd Steam Roller by Don Smith (41 points)



Members who brought several pieces were asked to select just one item to be entered in the **Competition Gallery**.

Additional items were displayed on this table.

A Corner of Mel Turner's table showing a variety of piercing patterns applied to turned and other items. Mel had a wonderful weekend with many members of both the public and the club being inspired by his work, especially those who tried their hand. The air tool was a big improvement because of the much higher cutter speeds.



5th Annual Open Weekend



Robin Lacey displaying many examples of Pyrography. During the weekend Robin helped a number of members of the club and the public to try their hand at pyrography, one of whom was an old friend of the club, Neville Waskett. It was great to see him again. Robin's enthusiasm was electric. Well done Robin.



Angie with Alex on the Junior Craft stall, making Trays... and praying for things to happen.

Derek Blake and David Jenkins displayed a variety of Pens, Bottle Tops and Perfume Applicators. They assisted the public and club members (senior & junior) making 30 different styles of pen. Most popular were the Acrylic / Corrian pens because of the exciting colours that are obtained. Their demonstration continued well after the doors had closed, however, thanks to the many helpers clearing up and shifting equipment the area was still cleared in 20 minutes. Photo shows Derek explaining about pens.



Don Smith

Forest of Bere Woodturners Association



Les started his demonstration with a blank of sycamore mounted on a screw chuck. He turned an ogee shape to form the back of the bowl, leaving a couple of steps as features and a chucking point. Having achieved a pleasing shape and very smooth finish, he attacked the back of the rim with an Arbor-Tech carving tool to apply texture, smoothing out any roughness using a 3M bristle brush.

The textured area was ebonised using a black lacquer, and then, sanded, to remove the lacquer from the high spots. Using a small cloth, red stain was applied to the area before it was sprayed with a clear lacquer. With the piece now reversed into the chuck, the face of the rim was similarly treated to complement the back of the rim. The arbor-tech is a particularly noisy piece of kit which, Les reckons, is the only thing noisier than his Dad!!!! The face of the rim was then finished in the same way as the back. Finally the bowl was hollowed out and Les demonstrated his power sanding techniques. Whilst doing so he gave us the following tips: -

- Start with the sanding pad at 3 o'clock and work across the centre
- If 80 grit is the right tool for the job then use it.
- If starting with 80 grit go to 100, 120, 150, 180400
- Grits below 240 are essentially for cutting while 240 and above are for polishing.
- Introduce a second, fresh piece of the same grit abrasive at certain stages. Taking the example in tip 3 the sequence would be: -

80, 100, 120, **120**, 180, 240, **240**, 320, 400, **400**

The untreated back, and bowl interior, will be finished with oil, care being taken to avoid getting too much oil onto the stained sections, though the lacquer should have sealed it. This was a very attractive bowl even though unfinished at this stage. See top left in the Photo Gallery page 19.

Les then made a similar bowl using a Proxxon "Dremel" type tool, with a grinding burr, to give the texture. The same finishing sequence followed, this time with a blue stain.

5th Annual Open Weekend



We were then treated to an excellent demonstration of Les's talent and skills using a skew to form delicate beads, fillets and coves on a spindle. He produced a fine finish straight from the tool with very crisply defined edges.

Les introduced us to a new option for his training courses, designed to keep the cost right down but still give four to one tuition.

Students bring all their own materials, tools and finishes. Les provides the workshop facilities, teas/coffees and of course, his excellent tuition. Thank you very much Les, for a most entertaining and informative weekend of turning.

David Hutchings

The Junior Section



Mick showed us his method of allowing the youngsters to turn in complete safety. A wooden drive centre, with a cone approximately 20mm diameter and 15mm long, tapers to a point. The other end is turned to fit the headstock taper. The pre-drilled blank is then mounted between centres and relies upon the friction between the wooden drive and the blank.

If the cut is too deep or there is the likelihood of a dig-in, the blank simply stops until the tool is removed.

5th Open Weekend - The Junior Section

Emily, Libby and Lily all made some beads using various woods including some very attractive spalted birch and other woods with stains applied. Lilly also made herself a decorated lidded box to keep her beads in. Well done Mick, the youngsters and the parents enjoyed and appreciated your efforts.



A box full of beads and a busy work table at the Junior Craft Section.

David Hutchings

photos by Alec Brook and Bill Thorne



As a founder member of the club I would like to thank and congratulate all the members and guests who attended our Open Weekend for assisting to make it a successful and entertaining occasion.

We had an excellent demonstration by our friend and professional wood turner Les Thorne. Also provided were many hands on demonstrations by our own members, and special thanks must go to the Refreshment Crew. I had many comments of appreciation from members of the public who dropped in and spent a few hours with us.

I am sure this has opened the eyes of a lot of people and given them an insight into our various hobbies. It may encourage them to leave the computer for a while and consider other hobbies and pastimes. Well done to all.

Ken White

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Water Displacement 40

WD-40, we have probably all used it at some time or other. When something breaks down there is always that voice behind you saying 'it might work if you spray it with WD-40'. In fact, lubrication was not the primary function when WD-40 was introduced. So what is its predominant ingredient? If you do or do not know read on.....

WD-40 was created in 1953, by technicians at San Diego Rocket Chemical Company, as a rust preventative and degreaser to protect rocket missile parts. Its final name comes from the project to find a 'water displacement' compound. The successful formulation was finally achieved at the fortieth attempt, thus the name WD-40. According to one of the founders, there is nothing in WD-40 that can hurt you.

Here are some uses for WD-40 not listed on the can!!!

- Protects silver from tarnishing.
- Cleans and lubricates guitar strings.
- Removes stains from stainless steel sinks.
- Removes lipstick stains.
- Keeps flies of cows.
- Keeps bathroom mirrors from steaming up.
- Removes traces of GAFFA / duct tape.
- Removes dead insects from car grills and bumpers.
- Lubricates windows making them easier to open.
- Prevents shower doors, plastic or glass, from that spotty effect.
- Removes grease from stoves.
- Cleans and restores vinyl on cars.
- Removes insect and bird droppings before they eat away car finishes.
- Lubricates fan belts and keeps them running smoothly.
- Removes tomato stains from clothing.
- Removes scuff marks from flooring.
- Sprayed on jewellery chains to untangle them.

WD-40 has been used for:

- Protecting New York's Statue of Liberty from the elements.
- Spraying on live bait or lures when fishing, it is supposed to attract the fish. You might just catch a big one!
- Takes the sting out of certain insect bites and stops the itch.
- Sprayed on areas to keep pigeons off, they do not like the smell.
- Spraying on joints to relieve arthritis pain.

Now the answer to the original question, **fish oil** is the predominant ingredient.

Finally, as someone once said, 'with a roll of duct tape and some WD-40 we can save the world!'

Trevor Dobbs

Photo Gallery

- Top Left** Turn to page 12 for details of how Les Thorne made this textured, ebonised and stained Sycamore bowl.
- Top Right** Clean and delicate lines to this balanced Yew dish.
- Centre Left** Decorative plaque, featured on pages 23-25 of the Mar 2010 issue. The centre could be rotated in the jig one or more times during turning. It might also be inserted into a dish, platter, box top, jewellery.....a versatile piece.
- Centre Right** The pleasing shape of a barrel. For almost 2000 years, the almost mystical skills to make the staves and hoops, the enchanting names for different cask sizes.
- Bottom Left** More history, from the pre - four jaw, self centring chucks for woodturners times , and still a useful jig, Do you have one?
- Note** (Please consider sending in photographs and details of woodturning jigs in your workshop.)
- Bottom Right** A corner of the Open Weekend Gallery table.

The Open Weekend gallery was arranged in two sections and these displays really illustrated the range of interest in the various facets of woodturning and the diversity of ideas and skills within the Club.

It is interesting to note that the winning pieces were all composites. The bowl by John Wyatt was assembled and turned, whereas, the clock by Ken White and the steam engine by Don Smith, were turned then assembled. Two other finely finished composites, in the form of coloured urns, were by Brian Mitchell. A colourful display case of pens by David Jenkins attracted and supported the busy pen making demonstrations taking place. Carvings by John Webb and a Snifferdog by Mel Turner provided associated woodcraft items.

I think it was an interesting display by a limited number of members. Thank you for making it worthwhile and adding to the atmosphere of the weekend.

Ken Briffett

**Visit the Club Website to view the pdf copy of the magazine.
All the photographs can be enlarged to fully appreciate the details.**

Photo Gallery



West's Wood Show 7 – 8 May 2010



On the Friday morning at 0800, the West's site, at Selham, was a hive of activity. Cars and Vans manoeuvred around rather like dodgems. Bill was in charge of our area although much of his time was required meeting and greeting everyone... Don & Aline set-up a lovely display of turned pieces, including a beautiful bowl made from the "guess the weight blank" won at our Open Weekend, and a Centurion Helmet, turned by Don, inspired by Andrew Hall's Masterclass.

Mel Turner's display was a credit to his skills and was greatly admired throughout the show.



Derek Blake and I turned Pens and Perfume Pens from Acrylic and Composite materials. The blanks for the pen turning team were donated by GPS Agency & Chestnut

West's Wood Show 7 – 8 May 2010



Robin Lacey was inundated with spectators for the 2 days showing how to produce exquisite pictures from burning wood.

Last but not least our illustrious Chairman, Bill Thorne, was showing the audience how to turn small bowls with inserts attached.



Two Professional Turners, Les Thorne and Margaret Garrard, gave demonstrations attracting large audiences.

Photo left shows Margaret talking to our Vice Chairman

The show was very well supported with Turners from other Clubs, Carvers, Design College, a Harp maker and various Tools & Equipment Sales.

There was also one young turner, aged 14, who gave a demonstration with Les Thorne in bowl making and then proceeded to demonstrate turning in the main exhibition hall.

Overall two very successful days. It was good to see a large contingent from the Forest of Bere who visited the show over the two days; the club demonstrators appreciated their support. Many thanks from us all.

David Jenkins

An Evening with Mark Sanger

The evening opened at 7.15pm with Don standing in for Bill, (on holiday AGAIN!), announcing the bits and bobs relating to the club and members. That done, our guest for the evening, Mark Sanger, was introduced.



His project for the evening was to be a hollow lidded form with a finial lid. Mark usually works in wet wood but for the evening had a dry bowl blank in ash. The blank was trued up, and where possible for safety reasons the tail stock was in place when turning. With the blank balanced the speed was increased, and the top of the base section formed into a pleasing curve with a shoulder left where the lid was to sit.

The hollowing was started by drilling with a spindle gouge to the correct depth and completed with a Kelton tool until the required form was achieved. During the hollowing process, the lathe was run at 1500-2000 r.p.m. taking regular small cuts. To sand the inside of the base, Velcro tape was attached to the end of a suitably bent, wire coat hanger, to grip the sanding disc.

The blank was reversed, with expanding jaws holding the form, in order to complete shaping the base. The finished base was burnished on a rotating mop in the lathe, before being polished, in order to retain a good quality lasting finish.

A lid was then turned from African Blackwood; firstly a slightly tapered spigot was cut to fit the hole in the top of the base. The outside diameter of the lid would complement the diameter of the raised bead on top of the base. With a parting tool the top of the lid was shaped to complement the curve of the top of the base.

If the parting tool has a burr on the right hand side, a finish may be shear scraped to the top of the lid, whilst parting off. Before the lid is parted off, a 3mm. hole is drilled through the centre, then countersunk using a skew, to accept a contrasting plug once the finial has been attached with an appropriate screw. The finial on top of the lid resembles a flickering flame, but can be designed to suit individual taste. The height of the finial and lid equates to one third the height of the finished form.

A couple of snippets from Mark

- sharpen tools in the morning, hone during the day,
- he prefers the Munro tool in preference to the Kelton
- use a saw-tooth bit for initial hollowing,
- When turning wet wood, leave the form oversize, dry gradually in a plastic bag; reverse the bag, changing every 2-3 days until no more moisture is present. Then leave the bag open in a draught free space.



A second project was demonstrated, a hollow lidded form, with the lid glued in position. The lid can be decorated to suit ones' preference, as also can the outside surface of the base, e.g. texturing, colouring or scorching.

The bases of both projects were slightly concaved giving better stability when sitting upright.

Mark gave us a very entertaining and informative demonstration, thanks to club members recommendation, I certainly enjoyed it.

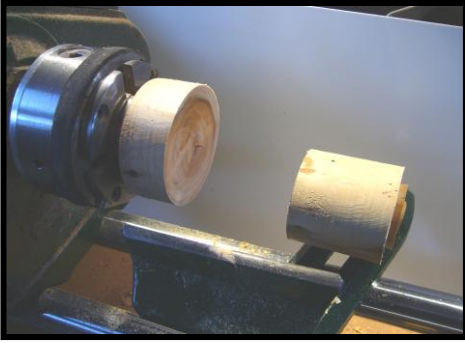
John Webb

Have you considered preparing an article for the magazine?

Clear, well framed and relevant colour photographs will assist and enhance your explanation.

Mushroom Box

This is a turned box with the outside shape resembling a mushroom. Any suitable outside form may be applied to the basic cylindrical box.



First, turn the wood between centres to a cylinder, and form a dovetail on both ends. Transfer to a chuck with the top end gripped in the jaws. True up if necessary and part off the base section.

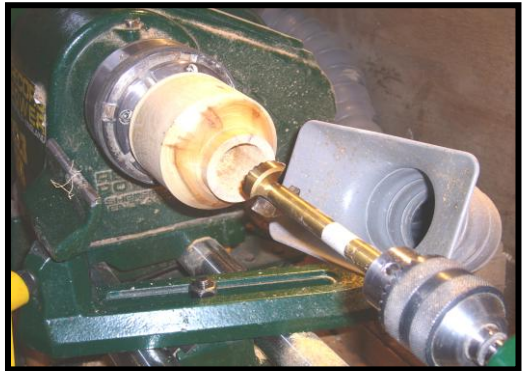
Form the inside of the top, sand and finish as required.

Remove the top from the chuck and set aside. Mount the bottom section, true up and cut the jointing spigot.



Use this spigot as a jam chuck to hold the lid. Complete shaping of the lid, sand, finish and remove from the jam chuck.

Drill the inside of the box, here I am using a saw tooth bit with tape to indicate the depth, taken to just short of the final depth. I use the point of a skew to open out the diameter of the hole, scrapers to clean and complete the bottom then sand and finish.



Avoid putting your fingers into the box when sanding the inside. I use shop made sanding sticks from lengths of doweling and grit cloth stuck on with PVA glue.

There are many variations of these sticks, one has foam under the cloth. To sand the bottom, secure the cloth across the end of the dowel.



I have used double sided adhesive carpet tape to hold the cloth, but found it did not last long enough before working loose.

Shaping the stalk of the mushroom is a matter of choice. I formed a simple one at first then added a small decoration as shown in the final picture.

When the stalk and base are turned and finished, part off. Use a sharp parting tool to get the cleanest cut possible. It is better to leave a pimple on the underside of the box than to tear out the fibres at the centre. The pimple is easily sanded off.



I used six tools, 1/2 inch skew • 3/8 inch spindle gouge • 1/8 inch parting tool • 1/2 inch bowl gouge • flat scraper • half round scraper.



Each part was finished with a coat of spirit sanding sealer and polished with a paste wax whilst still on the lathe. The underside of the base was hand sanded off the lathe, then finished in the same way.

When these boxes are on display I am often asked what can be kept inside them. So far I have been unable to give a sensible answer... nor have I been given one, but they still seem to sell.

John Hilton

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The Forest of Bere Woodturners Association

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Vice Chairman	Don Smith	d.smith2@donaline2004.plus.com	023 92473528
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Member	Tony Skerrett	tony.skerrett292@btinternet.com	023 80462570
Member	Peter Withers	peterwithers38@googlemail.com	023 92786130

Helpers

Chief Judge	Eric Warnecke	Helped by Pete Withers
Library and Badges	Jim Morris	
Club Night Teas	Volunteers on the night	
Raffle	Trevor Dobbs	

Meetings

The club meets every Third Wednesday of the Month at The St.John Ambulance Hall, Fraser Road, Bedhampton, Havant, Hants. PO9 3EJ (Opposite the Rugby Club)

Disclaimer

Entries in this publication are the opinions of the contributor and are not necessarily approved or endorsed by either the Editor or the Officers of the Club.