

Saturday Club Workshop 12th August 2023

Today started as usual with a brief outline of what would be happening, Alan sent his apologies as he was away therefore there was a lathe free for any member to have a go. John would be helping with any project or problems that members had, whilst I would be helping the real beginners on helping with tool control on turning beads and coves. Then we had Richard standing by to help show members how to use the Pro Edge Grinding system and was in use most of the morning.



Photo top left shows Harry under supervision from John. Photo top right is of Richard explaining the sharpening techniques to Bob. The bottom two photos shows a group under tuition and the second photo of Terry and his finished test piece.

During the refreshment break, we discussed next month's action and the decision was to do carry on doing the same as this month. The morning finished in the usual way with clearing up and putting all the equipment away so ending another successful day.

The next Saturday club is on 9th September Alan will not be in attendance so there will be a spare lathe for anyone to have a go.

Photos by Steve Hugo written by Don Smith

Club Night 15th August 2023

Welcome and Introduction

Richard started the evening as always with welcoming any new members or guest before giving out a few notices before introducing John Wyatt as tonight's demonstrator helped by his apprentice Kate Forest-Hill.

Demonstration by John Wyatt assisted by Kate Forest-Hill

John started by explain that his demonstration was going to a repeat of a demo that he and Bill Thorn did back in January 2020 and would be a refresher for some and a challenge for all the new members. The project was going to be a Wise Old OWL!

The first part of this project is the head, using a square section piece of Indigo 90mm long by 70mm square. Finding the centre on both ends, then using his pencil dividers drew a circle on each end 60mm diameter this was to help in turning the block down to the required length. Photo 1.

By drawing, the circle on the ends this saved you having to use callipers when turning the piece to size. Now that it is 60mm diameter, you need to mark out the 60mm length, firstly find the centre of the piece and draw two lines 30mm each side of the centre line. Take your parting tool and reduce each end down to a 10/12mm spigot. Photo 2 The first thing that Keith did was to true up the outer shape before using a BEDAN tool to enhance the compression chucking point. Removing the piece from between centres, reversing the block and attaching it to the chuck checking it for alignment. Finding it to be running slightly out of true Keith corrected it before starting the next operation.

Before hollowing could commence, using a long drill and tape to mark the depth required, placing the drill in the tailstock he proceeded to drill a hole. Photos 1 & 2.

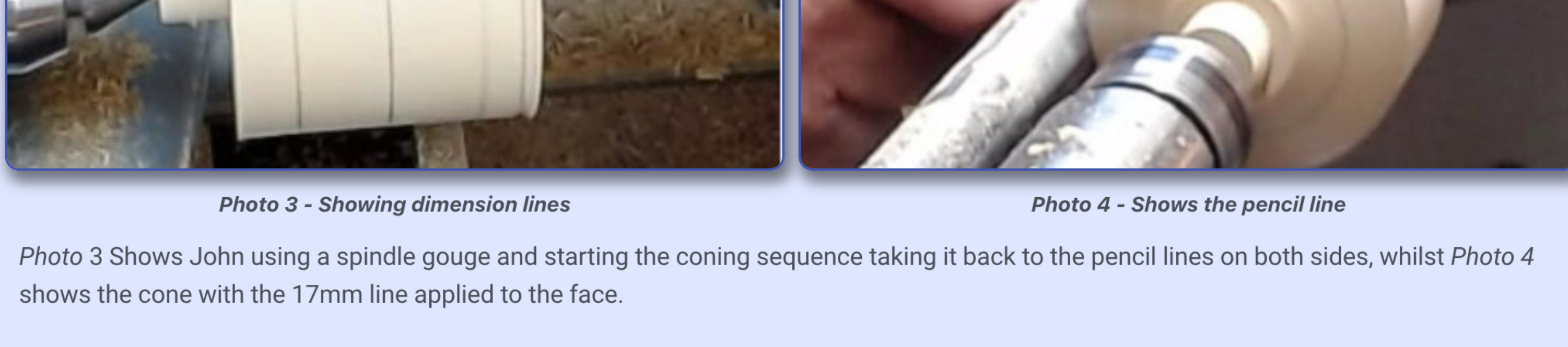


Photo 1 - Drawing a 60mm circle

Photo 2 - Shows line and one spigot turned

Once you have turned it down to 60mm long and with your two spigots, it is time to do the maths for marking up for your next operation. Maths required is (Diameter times 0.29275) so in this instance the dimension that you are looking for is (60mm Diameter X 0.29275 = 17.656).

Set your callipers to this dimension then from the centre line mark off each side of the line also the two ends from the top surface.



Photo 3 - Showing dimension lines

Photo 4 - Shows the pencil line

Photo 3 Shows John using a spindle gouge and starting the coning sequence taking it back to the pencil lines on both sides, whilst Photo 4 shows the cone with the 17mm line applied to the face.

The next photo 5 shows the sphere taking shape and John explained why the cone shape comes into play whilst turning the block into its final shape. Photo 6 shows John using a converted 57mm converted hole saw to define the shape whilst Photo 7 shows the sphere almost parted off.



Photo 5 - Sphere taking shape

Photo 6 - 57mm hole saw

Photo 7 - Almost parted off

Once removed from the lathe John sanded the small spigots that remained to finish the sphere off. I have taken the liberty to show the marking out of the eye sockets from John & Bill's original demo in 2020 as they are slightly clearer than the photo that were taken on the night.

Marking out of the eyes is quite simple really, firstly look at the graining on the head and decide where the eyes will be. Now put a centre pop on the centre line, setting your pencil callipers at 20mm draw a circle round that point. Now to set the second eye using the callipers come inside your first line between 3/5mm, mark your second centre, and draw the second line. Reset your callipers to 15mm and draw two inner lines.

The head is now ready for mounting on the lathe. Photo 8
As you can see there are four sets of rings, the outer are the outer eye whilst the inner two are for enhancing later. The next stage was the fitting of the head onto the lathe using a specially made jig.

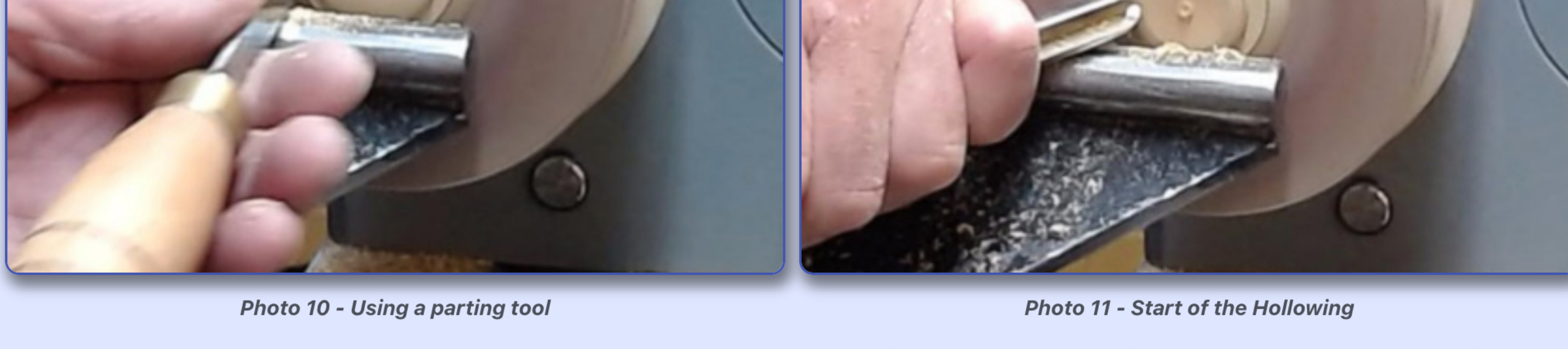


Photo 8 - Marking out for the eyes

Photo 9 - Jig with head in place

John explained that he had marked the outer rim of the tailstock and locating the the screw holes would always then. To get the head lined up, using a centre drive in the tailstock and locating it in the centre off the eye using then using three screws John tightened up the jig ready to start turning.

Taking a parting tool lining it up to the outside of the inner line he showed Kate how to relief the eye socket so that she would be able to carry out the operation on the second eye. Photo 10 and Photo 11 shows the beginning of the hollowing of the recess. The depth of the recess is approximately 3mm deep and when finished would then be ready to start the profile of the eye using the router. Using a router fitted to a cradle, which in turn, placed on a platform attached to the lathe.

Photos 12 shows both items also the eye profiling and photo 13 shows the first eye with a 12mm drilled recess to take the Amber eye with the centre drilled to the thickness of the eye stem.

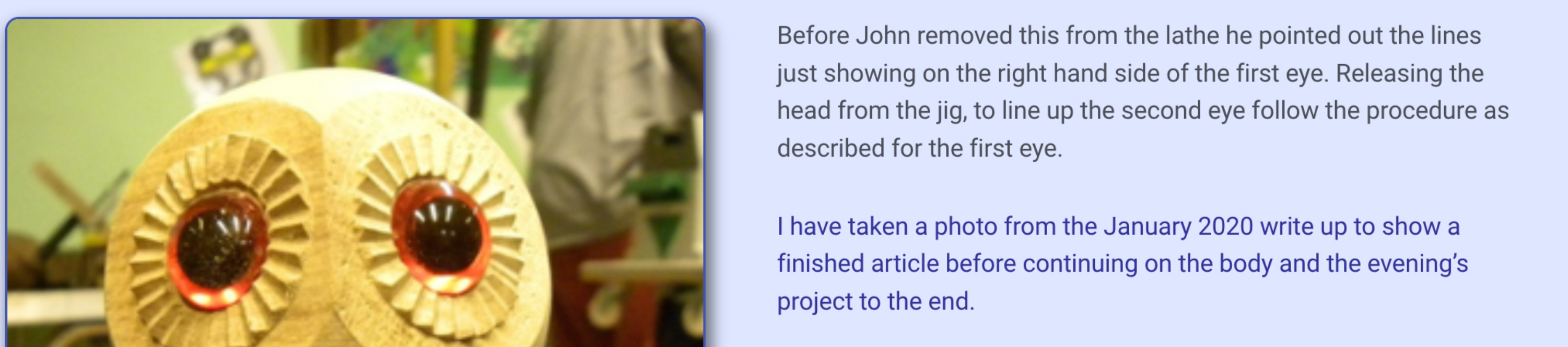


Photo 10 - Using a parting tool

Photo 11 - Start of the Hollowing

Photo 11 shows the holes drilled ready to take the eyelets and the beginning of the cut-out. Photo 12 shows the vase with the burrs and the holes ready to take eyelets completed. After the head had been refined using Micro files and the top corners rounded, any burrs that were visible were cleaned using abrasive paper.

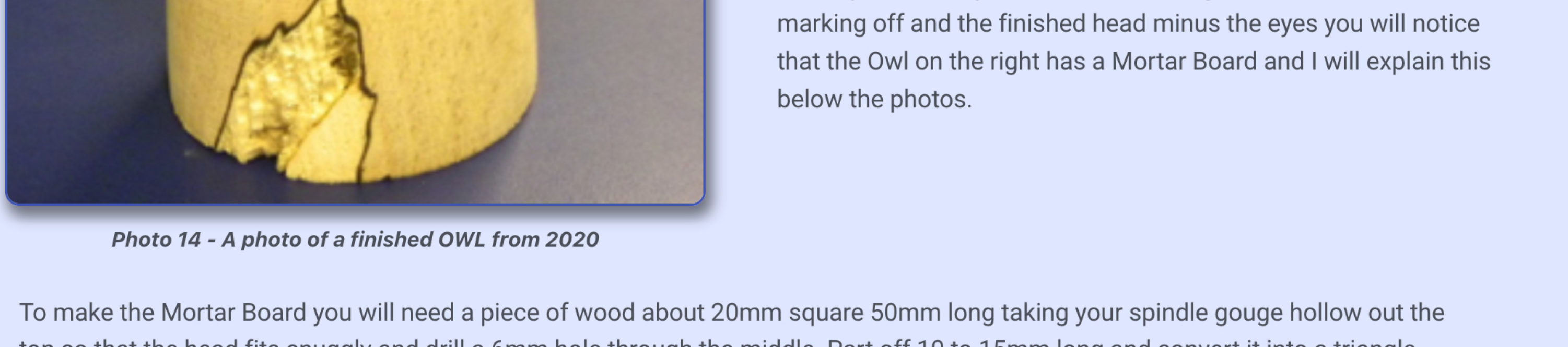


Photo 12 - Shows router in use on the platform

Photo 13 - Shows complete eye drilled

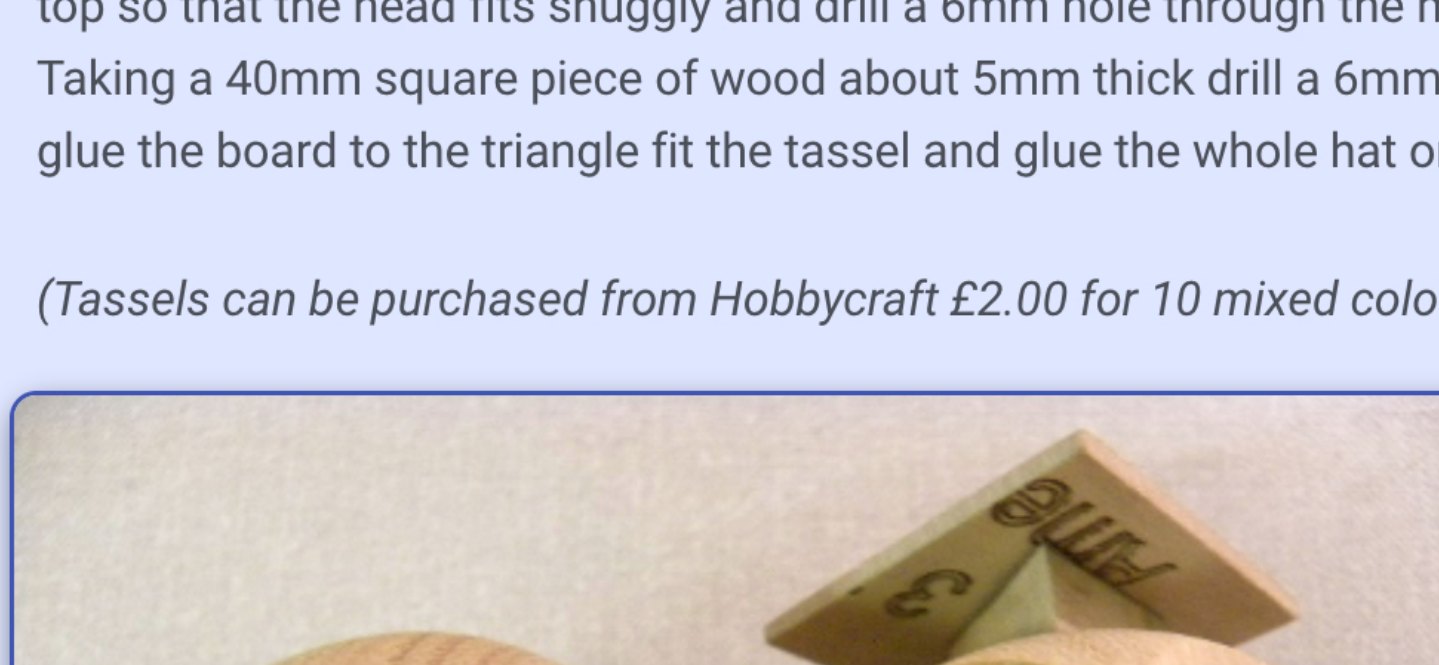


Photo 14 - A photo of a finished OWL from 2020

Before John removed this from the lathe he pointed out the lines just showing on the right hand side of the first eye. Releasing the head from the jig, to line up the second eye follow the procedure as described for the first eye.

I have taken a photo from the January 2020 write up to show a finished article before continuing on the body and the evening's project to the end.

To make the body a square section of wood would be required 90mm long 60mm square. Mounted between centres he first turned a spigot on one end, removed it and replaced into the chuck. Turning this down to a taper shaped body (similar to the one shown in photo 14)

The top was hollowed so that the head fitted into it snugly it was better to go slightly deeper to make certain that it was a good fit. Sand, polish, and part off at 60mm long. Photo 15 shows the marking off and the finished head minus the eyes you will notice that the Owl on the right has a Mortar Board and I will explain this below the photos.

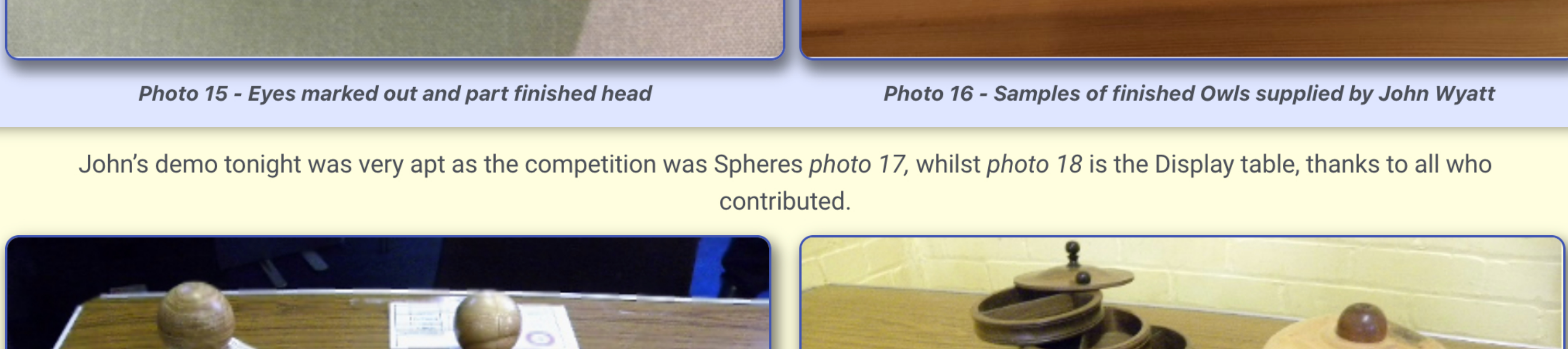


Photo 15 - Eyes marked out and part finished head



Photo 16 - Samples of finished Owls supplied by John Wyatt

John's demo tonight was very apt as the competition was Spheres photo 17, whilst photo 18 is the Display table, thanks to all who contributed.



Photo 17 - Competition Table



Photo 18 - Display Table