

Woody's World



7th July 2022

Natural Edge Turning - Roy Nicholls

The first rule of natural edge turning is "keep your fingers out of the way", Roy told us. Natural edges can be very sharp, and when this is coupled with them moving very fast they can do a lot of damage.



Roy's first demo was a small natural edged bowl. Start with a log or branch split down the middle, and mount it using a screw mount. Alternatively you could drill a hole with a Forstner bit and mount it in

the chuck. Start with a pull cut to take a bevel on the base, and then cut a



foot. Roy mentioned at this point that although he uses a bowl gouge, he sharpens it as a fingernail.

Now finish shaping the outside of the bowl and then turn the job round and using the foot to mount it in the chuck, hollow out the bowl.



Sanding has to be done carefully due to the sharp edges – Roy holds his sandpaper on a piece of foam pipe lagging.

He recommends "Rhynodry" sandpaper.

The foot can be reduced by turning the work round again, and using the tailstock centre to hold it against a soft surface – Roy uses a shaped piece of swimming float.







He suggests that it is better to leave a small foot for aesthetic reasons.



The next demonstration was a rough log held along the grain using a screw mount, to turn a slightly different rough edged bowl.

First turn the foot (spigot) in case the screw works loose and you need to turn the work round. When

shaping the outside it is useful to keep stopping to see the character and colour of the piece, to judge the right moment to stop, and turn it round to hollow out.





Before cutting out the inside, make sure you know where the sharp outside edges are and mark the place on the tool rest so that you don't catch your fingers.

Some previously turned items:







Forthcoming Meetings

Meetings normally are on the first Thursday in the month except when there are elections. Meetings start at 7pm.

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Subject	Sponsor	Date	
Skew Chisel Hands On	Nick Milton	4th August	
Lidded Box Hands On		1 st September	
Open evening	all	6th October	
Jam Chuck Hands On	Roy Nicholls 3 rd November		
Christmas Decorations		1 st December	
Sphere Demo	Nick Milton	TBD	
Off Centre Hands On	Steve Jennings	TBD	
Segmented Turning	TBD	TBD	
Turning Pens	Paul Liggins	TBD	

If you have any ideas or requests for future meetings, please mention it to Dave Simms.

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