



Sharpening your favourite gouge.

Can you get a decent edge on that chisel. Well most of us in the club can but it is “after a fashion”. This evening we had an opportunity of seeing our “experts” and seeing the various sharpening bits of equipment that are on the market.



Two types of chisels, the roughing gouge and the bowl gouges were prominent in the bits and pieces brought along for the evening. Both Mick and Nick pointed out that you must only use a roughing



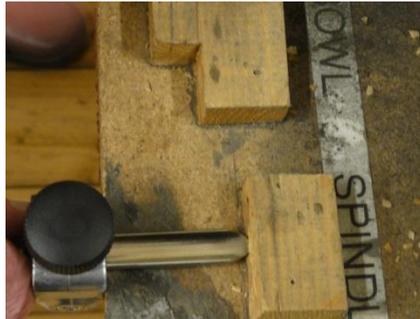
It looks like a dispute but they get along well.



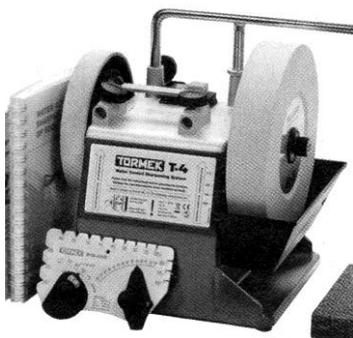
The jig for gouges to allow you to swing the tool

gouge when you want to “peel” off the wood don’t use it where all the wood grain faces you.

The roughing gouge has a narrow neck and that can snap. Also never use it when there is an obvious fault in the wood. The gouge edge can hook under the edge and hey presto you are in hospital with a nasty eye.



But back to sharpening.. Ken Croft brought along an Axminster kit which swings the tools round so you get an even clean edge on any hollow curved chisel. But as Ken pointed out you do need to set it up correctly. He had a set of stop marks actually screwed onto the grinding wheel base (picture above). There was also the water wheel cooled system which Roy demoed.



A gentle dispute arose when Mick showed how to sharpen using your eye alone, with a grinding wheel. Of course. I take no sides but I do have a flash bit of kit which I use when Mick’s method has got rather out of hand.

A quick spin through the internet or a glance at Charnwood’s or Axminster’s catalogues will show the range of sharpening equipment on offer. The price range is big from around £35 for a cheap pair of grinding wheels to over £400 for Tormek hand tool kit.

Most members will remember Richard, our youngest member and his mum Helen, who gave us talk some time ago. They haven't been for some time. Helen came in at the start of our meeting and she left a note for us all. I publish the contents below as I know many of you have missed the pair of them these last few months.

Just a note to say thank you all for making Richard and myself so very welcome at Offchurch Wood turners.

Thankyou to all of you who helped Richard develop turning skills, and gave so generously of your time and knowledge.

As you know Richard has autism he has had a very tough year, he wanted to come to the club but it wasn't possible.

Very suddenly in September Richard was finally offered a place at a residential specialist autism college. He has been there three weeks and loves it.

He is working at greenwood work, is building his own pole lathe, and scaring the tutor with his skill. The latest being questions on off centre turning where he's teaching the tutor.

If college holidays match with a future meeting he hopes he might come along again.

But for now thank you for your friendship and encouragement.

Love from Helen and Richard

Forthcoming Meetings 2019

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

- 3rd October *Back to basics and tool sharpening*
7th November *Pre Christmas work*
5th December *TBA*
Sat 11th January *Christmas social*
6th February
5th March *AGM*

Remember: members who demonstrate will receive payment.

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