



Woody's World

2nd November 2023



Back to Basics

A warm welcome to new members Mike & Chris who will have enjoyed this evening's excellent demonstration of "Back to Basics" given by Roger Gilbert, I certainly did.

Roger began by covering the main issues regarding Health & Safety in the workshop.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Dust: This will cause damage to health if precautions aren't taken. Whilst the visible 'stuff' should be swept up regularly, the fine particles that hang in the air for hours are the biggest danger, particularly to the lungs. Various types of effective mask exist & should be researched but one should be worn whilst turning & sharpening. They vary in style, quality & price with two examples shown:



P3 ("P3 or FFP3 classification offers 99.99% protection from hazardous workplace particle contamination down to 0.3 micron") - c.£20.



Various brands of full-face rechargeable 'Active Powered Respirator' at over £250 also provides eye protection & fit over glasses. Whilst expensive, it was mentioned that these are highly effective, comfortable, easy to breath & can easily wear glasses without fogging etc.

There are also a few designs & brands of ceiling hung 2-stage air filters. These have timers &, if positioned properly, are designed to be left on for a number of hours to process & clean the workshop of airborne fine particles down to 1 micron.



Eye protection: This should always be worn when turning or sharpening. Safety glasses are also made to fit over readers eg by ULEX. The full-face respirator covers all of these needs.

Personal: Long hair should always be tied well back & prevented from swinging forwards. Hairy beards should be restrained in some way!

Rings & watches should be removed & no long/dangly sleeves or cuffs which risk being caught by the rotating piece. Despite YouTube, gloves should never be worn whatever the temperature of the air or shavings.

Machine safety: Electrical equipment in the workshop should be connected through a circuit including a RCD.

The Lathe should be kept in good condition with smooth running surfaces. The bed should be kept clean & waxed to allow the tail stock and tool rest to move freely. The tool rest should also be kept smooth & dressed using emery cloth or a file to provide a smoother surface.

Chucks: These should be kept dust free & brushed/blown out regularly to ensure that they operate & close properly

Lathe speed: Secure your blank between centres & turn it by hand to ensure it runs clear of the tool rest...which should then be locked down. Always start the lathe at its lowest possible speed & then increase.

TIP: If wood is unbalanced, put your hand on the headstock & increase speed, reducing it slightly when the headstock begins to vibrate.

TIP: At a previous session, Mike Smets mentioned that a good rule of thumb to calculate lathe speed RPM for turning a bowl blank is to divide 9,000 by the diameter of the blank in inches. ie a 5-inch blank is $9,000/5 = 1800$ RPM, 10-inch blank is $9,000/10 = 900$ RPM.

Tool care: A young Roger was taught that “if you look after your tools, your tools will look after you”. If you clean & sharpen your tools at the end of a session then they will be ready next time and cut well.

Sharpening was covered in the newsletter of July 2023 but it was pointed out that various sharpening systems, grinders & wheel types are available at a wide variety of prices.

Examples of three discussed on the evening shown below. A basic grinder on the left (no jigs) c.£80, Sorby Pro Edge with jigs c.£450 & the Tormek with jigs c.£740...brands/prices just shown as examples, many others available.



Using jigs on these sharpeners quickly allows the beginner to sharpen their various tools correctly & effectively but they also provide repeatability of the desired angle of grind.

Copies of Nick's grinding & sharpening angles posters for the various tools are in the newsletter of 6th July 2023 "Sharpening & Skew Basics"

Tool presentation TIPS for Spindle work: When turning a spindle, set the tool rest & look down at it to ensure it is parallel with the lathe bed ie straight, adjust as necessary.

If you begin between a live/drive centre, make a spigot to begin with & mount the spindle into a chuck as soon as possible, it will be much safer.

Skew – cut within the black marks shown in the photo. This means that the cutting part of the Skew is supported by the tool rest (which should be set just above centre of the spindle for a Skew).

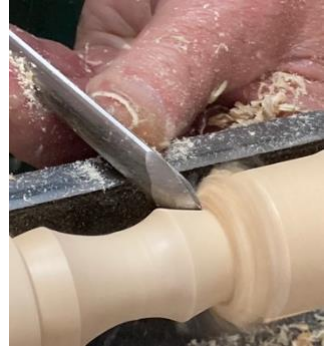


If buying a Skew, consider one with a radius/round edge (rather than square) that will move more freely across the tool rest & is less likely to cause or catch rough patches (which you should be smoothing out anyway!)



TIP: When working across a spindle, move your upper body from the hips to move the tool – do not stand still & just move your arms.

TIP: With beads & coves you can use a Skew (set tool rest just above centre for a Skew) or a Gouge (set tool rest just below centre for a Gouge) & cut 'down-hill' on the spindle as shown in the photo



Tool presentation TIPS for Bowl work: The grain will be running across the piece whereas on a spindle it runs through. A bowl gouge should be used – never a spindle gouge which is made differently & could be susceptible to breaking. Rub the bevel, lower the handle & address the gouge at 1 o'clock in the direction of movement.



Roger mounted his bowl blank on a face plate using that to connect to the chuck.



For the face of the base of the bowl, find centre & use a pull cut from the centre outwards using the lower wing of the tool. True the face & form a spigot. Finish the base of the bowl as desired ready to reverse and mount in the chuck using the spigot as shown.

Unfortunately, time was against us but we look forward to another chapter in 'back to basics', thanks Roger.



Christmas Social

The club Christmas Social will be held on **Saturday 13th January at 6.30pm** in Offchurch Village Hall

The evening will include food prepared by Dave, Nick's quiz, a hotly contested competitions for members' woodturnings (one piece each) and a competition for partner/spouses' crafts.

Price is £8.50 per person to be paid at the December meeting

Whilst food is provided, please bring sides and/or supporting food such as quiches, salad, dessert – and please confirm at the December meeting what you'll be bringing.

Soft drinks will be available but please bring own alcohol if desired.



Treasurer's request regarding payments

Most members are paying by card each week & less cash is available for change, Andy has asked that those preferring to pay by cash please bring the exact amount – usually £6. Thanks in advance.

Forthcoming Meetings

The club depends upon members volunteering to do demonstrations. **Please let Dave know what you can do for the club.**

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

Subject	Demonstrator	Date
Christmas items		7 th December
Club Christmas social		13 th January

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

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