



Woody's World

6th July 2023



Sharpening and Skew Basics

Tonight, we had really useful and instructive sessions on Sharpening and Skew basics led by Nick Milton & Mick Smets.

Nick brought in three comprehensive O'Donnell sharpening guides (imaged at the end) which provide guidance to the grind angles for Gouges, Skews, Parting Tools and Scrapers.



Nick began with his Spindle Roughing Gouge using a ruby wheel/120G grinding to 45°. Top tip here whilst grinding is to pause on the wings of the gouge before returning to ensure an even amount of time and grind across the width of the tool. Otherwise the middle of the



gouge is ground more and a dip occurs. Check by eye and rectify as necessary.



Next up was the Bowl Gouge also to 45° using a jig. The tip here was to over rotate whilst grinding to ensure that the wings of the gouge aren't proud opening up an increased risk of a catch.

The thin parting tool was also sharpened to 45° followed by the oval skew to 15°. Nick used a Diamond Card on the skew to polish and soften the corner edges to help reduce marks on the tool rest.



Mick recommends maintaining tool rests with a draw file (in one direction at -45° to perpendicular and then the opposite direction at $+45^\circ$ followed by sand paper) to keep smooth as any nicks in the rest will transfer through the tool on to the wood – “Tool rests should be smooth”

Moving on to the Skew session, Mick showed three different types of blade profile; Square, Oval and Curved angle – the latter being the best Skew for beginners as the crescent grind reduces the risk of a catch. Good advice with the square Skew is to soften the edges to prevent impact on the tool rest.

During the Skew demo Mick advised positioning the tool rest just above centre and using the ‘bottom corner’ of the skew ie the lower half of the cutting edge to avoid a catch.



When using a Skew, be gentle with both your grip and how you rest the tool on the wood.

V grooves can be cut using the sharp top corner – address the skew to the wood and then raise the handle to form the groove.

For beads, use the bottom corner, form two grooves and roll.

Remember – any catches are extra decoration!

More top tips:

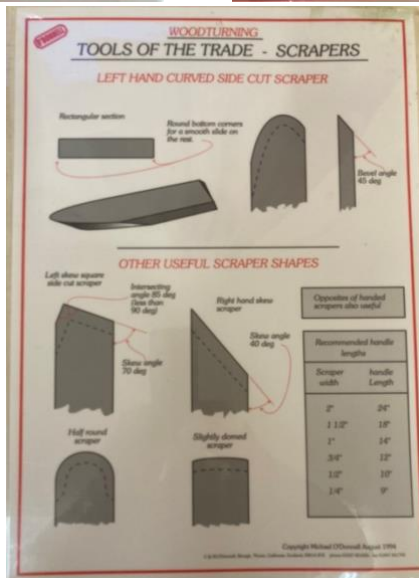
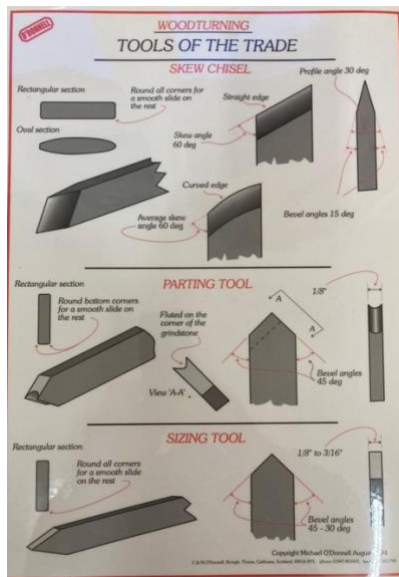
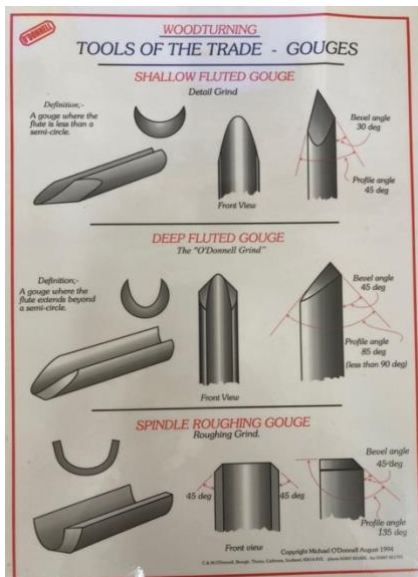
Hot shavings with a bowl gouge will be caused by either too much pressure and/or too much speed.

In terms of speed – smaller diameter eg a spindle of oak - can be flat out whereas much harder wood such as Box must be slower. A good guide to RPM is to divide 9,000 by diameter in inches eg $9,000/5 = 1800$ RPM.

Mick also demonstrated the use of a roughing gouge as a Skew (claiming and independently verified) an indistinguishable finish – use the bottom wing and be gentle.

Treasurer's request regarding payments

Most members are paying by card each week and 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.



Future meetings

The club depends on members volunteering to do demonstrations. Without volunteers the club will struggle. **Please let Dave know what you can do for the club.**

Forthcoming Meetings

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

Subject	Sponsor	Date
Fishing floats	Andy Smith	6 th July
Pole lathe tbc		3 rd August
Open evening		7 th September
	TBD	5 th October
Back to basics	Roger Gilbert	2 nd November
Christmas items		7 th December
Segmented Turning	TBD	TBD

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

Committee

Chairman	Dave Simms	david.simms26@outlook.com
Vice-Chairman	<i>vacant</i>	
Secretary	Ken Croft	Kenandnorma04@talktalk.net
Membership Sec.	Paul Liggins	paul.liggins@ntlworld.com
Demo Organiser	<i>vacant</i>	
Treasurer	Andy Smith	01789 612649 / 07865 938850 andrewsmith1125@outlook.com
Editor	Mike Widmer	m.widmer@btinternet.com