SAW – March 2023

Members' Magazine and Information

Spring edition

Website: http://www.shropshire-woodturners.org.uk/

Club Secretary: Colin Mee: shropshirewoodturners@gmail.com

I have asked our chairman Julian Birch to write a short contribution again – and this is on the next page. He has also written the review of the Zoom demonstration by Emma Cook in February. So special thanks to Julian for providing much of the material for this month's newsletter.

2023 calendar – provisional programme

Month	Demonstrator	Turners	Advanced turners	Notes
Wednesday 22nd March 2023	Professional demonstration at Bicton Wolfgang Schulze-Zachau	An animal	An "advanced animal"	
Wednesday 26th April 2023	Professional demonstration at Bicton by Mike Taylor with his pole lathe	A platter or bowl (5-8" diameter)	A decorated hollow form	
Wednesday 24th May 2023	Club evening including a demonstration by a club member	A piece of fruit	An example of "inside out turning"	Theme to be advised
Wednesday 28th June 2023	Club evening including a demonstration by a club member	A natural edge bowl	Two identical balls with which to play Boule (Pétanque)	Theme to be advised
Wednesday 26th July 2023	Professional demonstration by Robert Till at Bicton	Anything from a blank provided by the club.		
Wednesday 23rd August 2023	Club evening – to be confirmed	A matching pair	A lightbulb - 60W Edison screw Pearl Scale 1;1 traditional pear shape	

Plans for remaining meetings are being made by the new SAW sub – committee (Julian Birch and Cynthia Mee).

Next SAW meeting on 22nd March

As shown in the table above, the next SAW meeting is a demonstration by Wolfgang Schulze-Zachau. You may remember his entertaining and instructive demonstration in September last year when he showed how to turn hollow form and decorate it by piercing. This time, it will be something completely different! But it will be at Bicton again.

A message from the Chairman

I have just read the guest editor, Sue Harker's article in the latest Woodturning Magazine about the early benefit she got in her woodturning journey in entering club challenges. This echoes what I wrote in our last newsletter. So I hope everyone is making an animal woodturning for the March challenge. If you do not win, you could still get constructive criticism to help improve your entry for the next challenge!

I really enjoyed Emma Cook's demonstration and will be trying to turn one of her LED lights very soon. My only trouble is that, if I make a good job of it, all my grandchildren will want one! It is the little hints that demonstrators offer which teaches me so much, like using a hand drill to get less tear out, doing your last sand along the grain on a stationary piece to get rid of radial lines, and using cellulose sealer before cut and polish to get a better finish.

If other turners make a LEDs light, I hope they bring them to a meeting. Perhaps we could manage a row of such lights later in the year.

The Committee is always looking to improve meetings and would love to hear from any ideas from members.

Julian Birch, Chairman

Challenge for March 2023

As announced in the January meeting (and include last newsletter) the next challenges are for the March meeting.

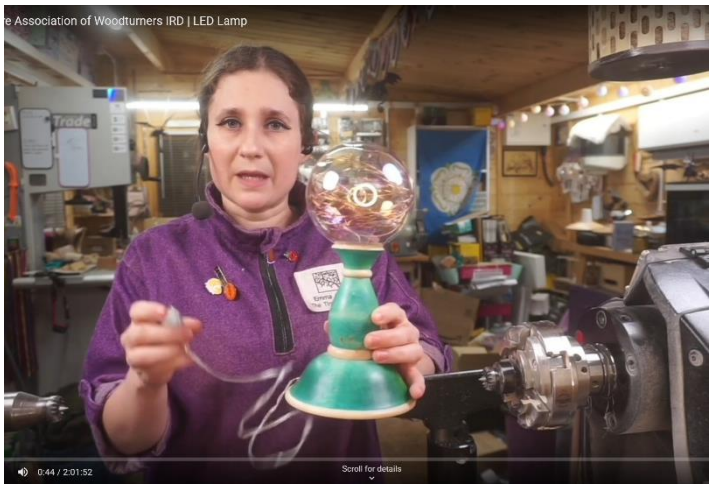
Turners: an animal (e.g. penguin) – but please don't all make penguins

Advanced turners: an "advanced" animal – just a bit more imaginative and more challenging than any old animal. E.g.a herd of antelope. And please don't all make herds of antelopes.

Last newsletter included a reminder of the main rules:

SAW meeting on 22nd February

Zoom Demonstration by Emma Cook, The Tiny Turner



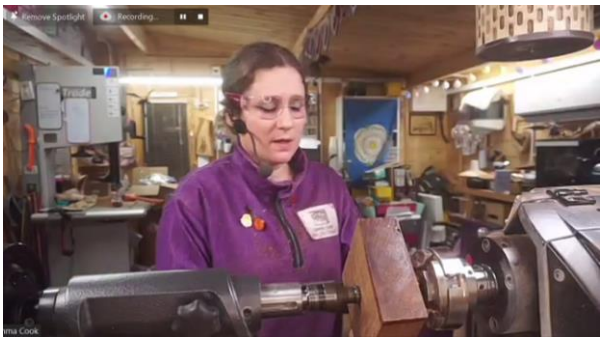
Emma demonstrated the turning of an LED lamp that could be powered by a battery or via a USB cable. She said it was one of her signature pieces but had not made one for a while. The best wood for the project was sycamore but she had difficult sourcing this at present and so was using Brown oak. She was starting with two bits – one 6in by 2in square for the upright and one 5in square by 2in deep for the base. She was making the USB version and said the base piece would need to be deeper for the battery version as the battery had to be housed in the base.

She mounted the spindle piece between steb centres and turned it round with a roughing gouge with a lathe speed of 1000rpm. A tenon was then created at each end using a parting tool with a tip end to allow a dovetail to be easily fashioned. The piece was then drilled from either end with a 7mm bit in a Jacobs chuck at a slow speed frequently removing the shavings produced. The size of the hole must be big enough to allow the LEDs to be threaded through. She emphasised that the quill of the chuck should not be overextended and told us a squeaky drill can be solved with a little wax coating.

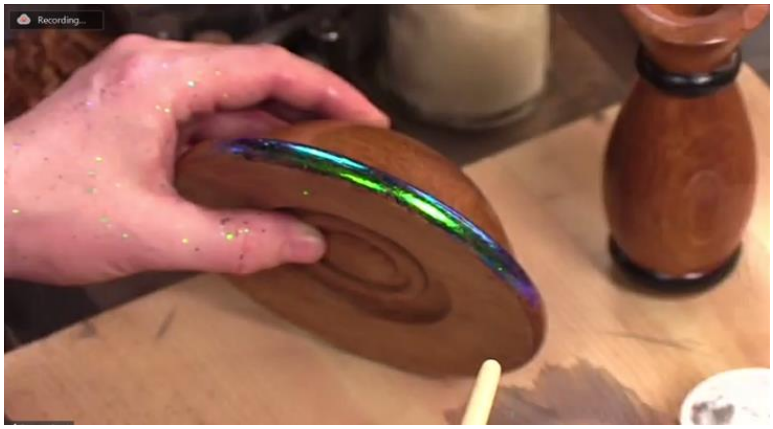
With a careful look at the grain etc of the piece of wood, she decided which way round it would look best when finished. She then mounted it in the chuck by the tenon which would become the base of the piece. With a 1/4in bowl gouge and a 3/8th spindle, a concave recess for the 100 mm diameter glass bowl was cut in the end of the piece, ensuring it was a loose fit. The rest of the wood spindle was then shaped including a bead at the bottom of the piece to match that at the top.

The wood was then sanded, the final sand being with the lathe not moving to allow removal of radial lines. Emma emphasised the use of tack cloth. She then applied cellulose sanding sealer, cut and polish with a final coat of microcrystalline wax (which should be left 10mins before buffing). She keyed off the beads to allow later embellishment. After making a new tenon at the bottom of the piece approximately ¼ in deep and 1¼ in across she parted off the piece.

The base piece was then mounted between steb centres rounded off and shaped into the required shape including a bead around the base. A mounting recess was made in the base, but Emma unfortunately forgot to sand and finish it. The piece was reversed, and a recess cut to fit the base of the spindle section of the creation. A chamber was then hollowed out large enough to allow a hole for the flex to be drill in the side of the base. This was done with a handheld drill and needed to be 8mm diameter to allow for the size of the cable.



Slight splitting of fibres at the drill entry point was cleaned up with a carving tool. The piece was sanded and finished.

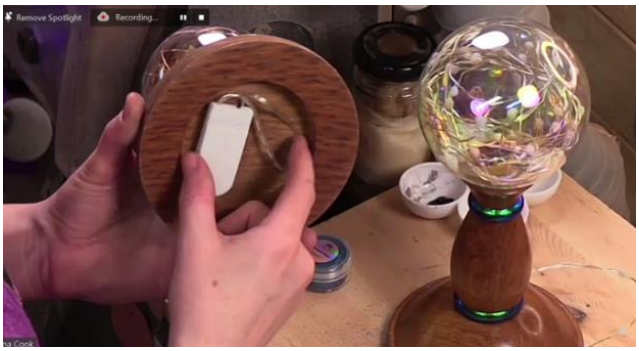


Decoration was done on the three beads with a base of Gesso and a covering of chameleon flecks applied with a dry lightly loaded brush. Gesso is required for the light colour of the wood and should be allowed 10mins to dry before the flakes are added.

The string of LEDs was then threaded through the base and upright before it was glued together.

The globe was then filled with LEDs and glued in place with Fix-all glue.

The finished creation was admired by all!



Report by Julian Birch

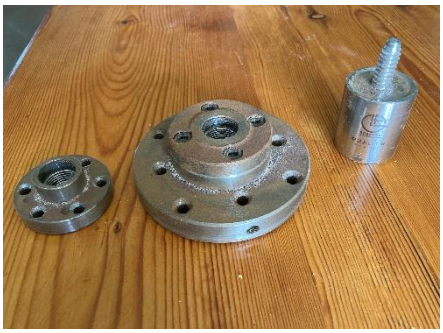
Have your say

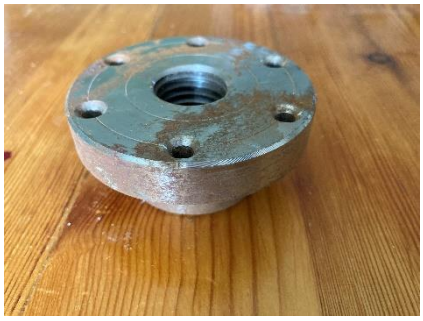
The next newsletter will be the April edition– about 10 days after the March meeting. Please let me have any contributions by 28th March.

For sale

Nothing for sale from other club members but here are my own items – so use the email at the end if you are interested.

1. 50mm faceplate, 100mm faceplate and screw chuck – to fit 3/4 inch x 16tpi lathe spindle. £10
2. 75mm faceplate – to fit 1 inch x 8 tpi lathe spindle. £5





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