

July 2013 Meeting - Andy Coates

Andy is quite well known at the Club and for his first item he was making a turned version of a Ginger Jar from a piece of Leylandii. He mounted the blank between centres, roughed it to a cylinder and cut a spigot on one end. He then mounted the spigot in the chuck and trued up the cylinder and end. A second spigot was cut at the tailstock end and the portion that would form the lid was parted off.



Andy shaped the outside of the jar, cutting a spigot to form the rim over which the lid would fit. In shaping he said that one must always bear in mind the proportions of the finished piece. He used a Forstner bit in a Jacobs chuck to drill out the core of the pot. He then hollowed out the inside of the piece demonstrating various tools that can be used including a homemade "Ellsworth" hollowing tool that he had made from a chrome vanadium steel screwdriver which allows hollowing through a small hole. Andy mainly uses "toothpick" style tools for hollowing most of his pieces.

The top portion was put in the chuck and the measurement of the external diameter of the lip marked on the end of the top to show the internal dimensions of the lid. Some of the centre of the lid was removed and then using a beading/parting tool he cut a parallel edge to give a tight fit on the base and then finished shaping the inside.



If he has to remove a lot of wood from the outside of a piece Andy cuts it off in rings that can be used as inlays on other projects. After removing the waste in this manner Andy shaped the outside, matching the curve of the inside and parted off.

The base was refitted in the chuck and the lid fitted. The outside of the lid was cleaned up to remove the stub left on parting off and abraded to a finish.

With the lid removed the lip on the base was gently adjusted so that the lid was an easy fit. The base was abraded to a finish and parted off.

For his second item Andy made a shallow hollow form from a piece of elm. The blank was trued up on a screw chuck and a spigot slightly larger than to fit the chuck jaws was formed on the tailstock end, making sure that the sides were parallel. The spigot was then parted off to be used as a plug later on.

The outside of the form was shaped using a bowl gouge and a recess made in the bottom so that the parted off spigot would be a tight fit. Andy then hollowed out the piece until he met the end of the screw in the screw chuck. At this point he began hollowing out to the edges leaving a central plug around the screw. He continued hollowing using various tools to get right into the corners. When he was satisfied with the hollowing he used superglue to attach the spigot into the recess and reshaped the base and re-cut a spigot to fit the chuck jaws. The glue line was hidden by cutting a groove with the point of a skew chisel and then burning a line with the edge of a piece of decorative laminate.



Andy reversed the form in the chuck and trued up the top taking gentle cuts as the piece was hollow and could easily shatter. With a parting tool he removed the plug that was around the screw and cut some decorative rings which he highlighted by burning with the decorative laminate.

