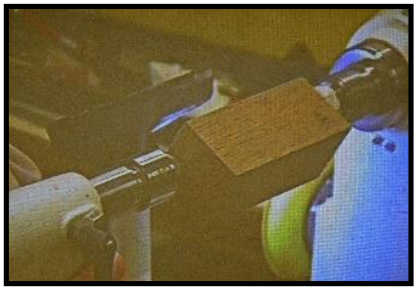
March 2015 Meeting - Carlyn Lindsey

Carlyn said that her laminating work started at Art College when she did projects laminating many different material, sometimes mixing them with varying degrees of success.
For her first demo she was going to make a handle for a corkscrew. She mounted a laminated block on the lathe between centres (she used steb centres as they do not require so much pressure and do not force the laminate apart). She took a few cuts off the ends and then checked the pattern to see if the piece was exactly centred. She adjusted the centre and checked again. It took a few attempts until Carlyn was satisfied. With the laminations it is critical to get the centring correct or else it will show in the pattern.

The block was turned to a cylinder and using a template the design was transferred to the piece. Large coves were turned with a spindle gouge on both sides of the centre. Carlyn worked alternately on each cove, taking the same cut on each so as to keep them uniform in shape and size. The coves were deepened until the laminations near the centre of the block became visible. At this point the coves were sanded through the grits and the hole to take the corkscrew was drilled in the central portion.

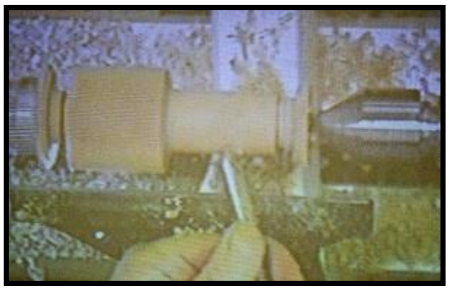
Carlyn then started to shape the ends with the spindle gouge and she also added some groove decoration inside the cove with a diamond point tool.

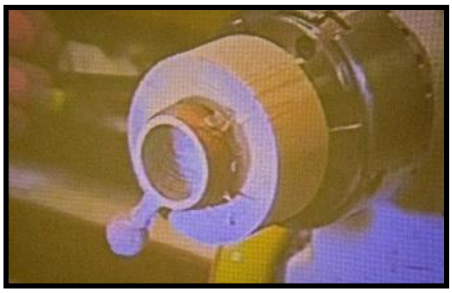
The ends were turned a much as was safely possible and then the piece was removed from the lathe. The stubs were cut off the ends and the ends sanded with a rotating pad mounted in the lathe.
The finish Carlyn uses is Rustins Plastic Coating which is a 2 part resin finish mixed in 4 parts resin to 1 part hardener. It is important to clean off all dust from the surface before applying the finish. Carlyn applies 3 coats within a 24 hour period and cuts back the surface between coats. She leaves it for 5 days to fully harden and then burnishes the surface. The screw is glued in using Araldite epoxy resin.



The second project was a scoop which is made using off-centre turning. Mount the square section blank between centres, offset on the centre line by the same amount from the same side at each end. The offset is between 1/3rd and 1/4th the width.

Carlyn roughed out the handle end to a cylinder and then started to round over the truncated spherical shape of the bowl part of the scoop. The handle was then shaped, the bowl shape refined and then sanded. The scoop was removed from the lathe and the end stubs sawn off and the bowl and end of the handle sanded.





A spare block of wood was mounted in the chuck and a recess cut to take the bowl of the scoop. The bowl was glued into the cup chuck with hot melt glue and the top of the bowl turned away until it was flush with the handle. The scoop was then hollowed out. Carlyn put the glued assembly in a microwave oven for about 30 seconds to soften the hot melt glue and the scoop was easily removed from the cup chuck.

Another good demonstration evening from Carlyn. Here are some of the pieces she had on show.