March 2017 Meeting - Multi-turn Evening

At this Multi-turn we had four lathes on the go with five demonstrators and Tic brought along her pyrography and airbrush units. Listening in on various demos, there seemed to be a lot of discussion and sharing of hints and tips relating to all aspects of turning. I heard discussions on sharpening, tool technique and choice of woods. Amongst other bits and pieces. Yet again this was another successful evening.

Mike Charnley



Mike had an irregular shaped piece of Hornbeam mounted on the lathe and hoped to make a natural edge bowl. It was good for the onlookers to see that he was having problems as fine cracks meant that the natural

edge kept breaking away despite Mike using sharp tools and different approaches. Instead of giving up, Mike cut back the blank until he found a sound area and proceeded to make a bowl of a modified design. He followed this with a small vase from a piece of cherry.





Alan Munton

Alan attempted to turn a vase from a piece of spalted sycamore using borrowed lathe and tools. Unfortunately, the sycamore was very dry, old and very hard in the areas without spalting. Also, the tools were not at their sharpest. This, however, led to much discussion and trial and error to try and get some shape into the piece. While the attempt was abortive it did lead to much discussion.



Tic Challis

Tic was her usual ebullient self, radiating enthusiasm and getting members to try their hand at pyrography and airbrushing. Demonstrating airbrushing and holding the piece being airbrushed resulted in her getting blue hands! I believe she has been promised a pack of disposable gloves to overcome this problem.



Ian Cotgrove

Ian showed that wood can be sourced from the strangest of places. He was demonstrating making a simple box from a piece of oak. This Oak had a former existence as part of a handrail in the Billericay Magistrates Court!



Trevor Branton

For his demonstration, Trevor turned a vase from Elm and then showcased the use of a Simon Hope carbide tipped hollowing tool. He showed the best angle to use it at and got several members to have a try with it. The merits of using such a tool as opposed to other more conventional tools were a topic of the conversations.



Maurice Sore



Maurice had paid attention during Ian Cameron's demonstration last month and had made a copy of his off-centre jig that he used to produce a shell pattern.

The jig consists of a disc mounted on the lathe with an appropriately sized recess set off-centre. The piece to be turned is mounted in this recess using double sided tape and then the shell pattern is cut into the surface.





This photo shows the result.