

## Turn East 2014

For those of you who are unaware of Turn East, it is a bi-annual event planned to fit in the years between the AWGB seminars. It is organised by the Norfolk Woodturners Society and is held at Fakenham High School. It is an all-day event and features a display area, a sales area and four demonstrators who all do four sessions of turning throughout the day. The sessions run side by side so you have to work out from the program which sessions you wish to see.

The demonstrators booked this year were Nick Arnall, Guy Ravine, Mick Hanbury and Gary Rance. Whether by design or coincidence each of the demonstrators had chosen to make boxes as one of their sessions and they did not clash with each other so I decided that I would spend the day watching box making by the different turners. Other sessions included such diverse subjects as exploring surface decoration and colour, coloured platter, making wooden pendants and turning bone.

### Nick Arnall

Nick chose to turn a box from Sycamore and to decorate the top with texture. As you can see from the attached photo it was a standard box and the main point of the demo was the decoration of the lid. The box was hollowed out and the lid fitted and held firm by trapping a layer of paper towel in the join., the outside of the box was then finished and the decoration begun.



The two beads were formed using a beading tool, the areas inside and between the beads were slightly domed using a beading/parting tool. Nick used a rotating burr to texture between the beads, he used a figure of eight movement to get the pattern. He stressed that you have to stay away from the beads because at this stage if they get damaged there is not a lot you can do to recover them. He then castellated the edge by hand using a half round "Surform" type file. A stiff brush was used to clean off any loose bits caused by the texturing.



### Guy Ravine

Guy hails from Northamptonshire and he has given an all-day demo at the Club a few years ago. He set out to make a Blackwood threaded box with pewter ring and finial. The turning of the basic box was done initially using a spindle gouge but the finishing as Blackwood is a very hard close grained wood was carried out using scrapers. The female thread on the inside of the lid was cut first with the thread being started on a bevel and once started the tool was move round gradually until it was cutting a thread parallel to the lathe bed. A spigot was formed on the bottom half of the box to take the male thread. Guy made this spigot oversize to show how you can fine tune the thread to fit correctly. Unfortunately there was some slight problems with the casting of the pewter and the demo ran out of time.



### Mick Hanbury

Mick is an old favourite at our Club and chose to make a three-sided box from a piece of sycamore. Before turning the ends of the blank were marked up. The centre was found and a small circle drawn with a pair of compasses and with the compasses still set to the radius three equidistant points were marked around the circle by using every other step. This process was repeated on the other end making sure the points matched up. The piece was turned to a cylinder and the box made in the normal way, hollowed out and the lid fitted but with spigots still on the lid and the base. The box was mounted between centres on one pair of the points measured earlier. With a gouge the off-centre profile was turned. Mick explained that he was watching the "shadow" formed by the offset and could see when he was down to solid wood. This was repeated on the other two pairs of points and the curved three sided profile produced. It was stressed that careful measurement and alignment was essential to ensure an accurate finish, The Lid and base were cleaned up in the usual way by means of jam chucks. Mick also had on display some of his other pieces which showed his forms of decoration that he utilises to good effect.





## Gary Rance

Gary is a very accomplished turner, trained as a production turner and he can make a seemingly complicated object in a very short time and it requires minimal finishing. He was demonstrating his technique of “on-lay” decoration. The turning of the box is carried out in the usual way but the top is left with a slight slope to the centre.



Gary had prepared a piece of Corian by drilling a hole through it, the diameter was about 25mm. He turned a spigot on the box top to fit in the Corian. He used superglue and accelerator to glue the Corian to the box top. With gentle cuts he removed the excess Corian and finished shaping the top.



A really enjoyable day, well organised again by Bernard Rose and his team.