



Oxon Woodturners

October Newsletter

Dear Members,

This month, founding member **Tony Halcrow** provided an engaging and insightful demonstration. In total there were six items turned on the evening and a variety of different techniques demonstrated, starting with a multi-axis “Parisian lady”:



This was achieved by working on three axes, starting with the head and shaping each section before moving on the next. Tony explained that care is required where the axes intersect as it can be easy to remove too much material and cut through the piece entirely.



On display were some of Tony's other beautifully turned items, many of which also featured off-set axes.



Tony moved on to show how to turn a small item with revolving parts, using a narrow parting tool fashioned from an old mortise chisel to cut the captive annular rings and a set of wooden jaws to hold the workpiece.



This was followed by two seasonal turnings; a snowman and a Christmas tree:





You'll notice the spare hat atop the Christmas tree; this was turning #5 of the evening and was demonstrated as an alternative option if additional flexibility is required for mounting on the snowman's head (e.g. at a funny angle) or if there is an unplanned design modification (e.g. as the result of a catch) whilst turning the first in-situ.

With minutes to spare at the end of the evening, Tony wanted to expand on the demonstration we had by Anna-Marie Bennet back in July with another way to make Saturn-like planet with captive ring.



The item was again turned from a single piece of wood, but Tony elaborated on alternative approaches to work-holding which made the task a little easier and was amenable to incorporating additional decoration/finials on each end perpendicular to the ring. This was evidenced by a piece he had prepared earlier, featuring a tiny goblet with captive ring on each pole of the “planet”.

Exhibition of work (Hybrid turning/alternative materials)

As always the standard of our member’s work was very high and there were several very creative and well-finished pieces in the exhibition.





As a reminder, the next meeting is on **9th November** for a demonstration by **John Boyne Aitken**. We are glad to welcome John back to the Oxon woodturners after the excellent feedback I received regarding his demonstration last year. It's also not too late to start working on a competition entry; the theme is "live edge" and after the recent storms I am sure there are suitable turning blanks just lying around.

Dan