

Yoyo Fun with Rick

Despite the absence of several regular members, there was a good attendance for the August meeting. Vice chairman, Mike Pollard, led the meeting and after the notices the demonstration by Rick Thompson began.



Rick's project was to turn a working yoyo. Members were assured it would not be complicated and would be a fun subject.

Rick began with two square blanks, 70x70mm and 24mm thick. One face of each was pre sanded to about 240grit. The timber chosen needed to be reasonably lightweight in order for the yoyo to work well.

For the same reason the dimensions and weight of each half needed to be within a specific range.

The individual blank was prepared for mounting on a screw chuck by drilling a hole on the sanded face using the pillar drill.

Rick's screw chuck needed a 8.5 mm hole. It was drilled to a depth of 12mm. The screw chuck was fitted with a spacer so that 10mm of screw projected into the blank.

The same hole would also accommodate the dowel for finishing the yoyo. Rick mounted the first blank and marked a diameter of 62mm. He then rounded the corners off and turned it to just proud of the marked diameter before finishing it to the correct size with a gouge using a push cut. The corners could be sawn off before mounting if preferred.

Rick then faced off the blank using a pull cut and turned it to a thickness of 20mm. He finished with a push cut and refined the shape by raising the tool rest and using a scraper with the tool angled down.

To add some extra interest, Rick used a skew chisel and turned some grooves before sanding. He removed the sanding dust by wiping the blank with methylated spirit. This also raises the grain slightly so he cut it back with fine abrasive.

Rick moved on to turning the second half before adding any finish in case adjustment was necessary as both halves needed to be the same dimensions and shape.

Rick weighed each half to ensure they were equal and fell into the correct range of about 30 to 37gms.

Having achieved this, Rick remounted each piece for finishing. He applied cellulose sanding sealer, burnished with some of the shavings and then polished them with friction polish.

The next stage was to knock in the shaft which was a piece of 9mm dowel 25mm long. There needed to be a gap of 3mm between the two halves so Rick marked the middle of the dowel. It was pushed in leaving 1.5 mm from the middle. A drop of superglue on the first half would ensure it did not move when fixing the second half. Rick used yoyo string which comes looped. He untwisted the loop and slipped it over the shaft, then with a 3mm spacer in between, knocked the other half of the yoyo on.

Rick discussed the options for the shaft such as metal rather than wood and also the dedicated yoyo strings available. He used a slick 50/50 cotton polypropylene.



Finally as the proof of the pudding is in the eating, Rick demonstrated the yoyo which worked perfectly. What else would be expected from such a professional and well presented demonstration by Rick. Many thanks to him.



After a break for lunch and the raffle, members were able to have a go at turning their own yoyos.

Pictured left, Neil Little turned a yoyo under the expert guidance of Rick.

Thank you to everyone who helped set up all the equipment for the meeting and for to those who gave guidance to the less experienced turners. Thank you all the regular helpers, Mike Moon for overseeing the drinks and Adrian Dubery for the raffle, Brian Pope for selling abrasives and Gareth Garner for running the library and last but not least, Brian Rowson and his audio visual team.

The Richard Hasleden Cup Monthly Entries



Pot turned by Howard Baldock.



Acorn turned by Mike Moon.



Creative piece by Gareth Garner.



Dibber turned by Mike Pollard.



Lelly James turned this egg cup.



Flowers for a Midsummer's night dream turned by Sandra Day.



Bowl by Adam Baker.

Winter Competitions

As usual, the winter competitions will take place at the Christmas social on December 6th.

Members will be provided with blanks to make an entry as follows;

Novices: A single blank

Make a composition of your choice, using as much of the wood as possible. This could be a single item or a piece made up of a number of components. Past examples of this type of category were a set of 'tin' soldiers, and a bird nest complete with birds and eggs.

Intermediates: Two blanks

Make a 'set of two', using as much of the wood as possible. As a 'set of two' the two items should not be identical but belong together. Examples could be a cruet set, two people or animals, interlocking pieces, perhaps a 'ying and yang' creation?

Advanced: Three blanks

Make a 'set of three', using as much of the wood as possible. As a 'set of three' the three items should not be identical but belong together. Examples could be a set of boxes, goblets, interlocking forms etc.

Note:

- For all classes the addition of colour and decoration is fine.
- The addition of other wood or material may be used to enhance the piece, but to constitute no more than 10% of the whole.

Additional competitions.

The Frank Elworthy Cup for Spindle turning is the winter open class.

The Richard Hasleden Cup monthly entries will culminate with the final entry on the day.

The Charles Newson Cup will be awarded for the partners' choice.

September Meeting

September 20th 10.00-16.00

Hands on with Maggie Wright and
Mike Pollard

Turning Christmas decorations.

Please bring your tools and 2 blanks, one of branch wood 2.5" by 6" inches and one of softer wood 1.5 inches by 6".

Competition secretary, John Packer's take on a 'set of three' with a condiment set



The Your Way Project for September is to make a yoyo following Rick Thompson's demonstration.

October Meeting

October 18th 10.00-16.00

Chairman	Maggie Wright
Vice Chairman	Mike Pollard
Competition Secretary	John Packer
Secretary	Anne Smith
Treasurer	John Turner
Events organiser	Mike Pollard
Librarian	Gareth Garner
Newsletter editor	Sandra Day
A-V co-ordinator	Brian Rowson
Hands On	Pete Hawes
Webmaster	Rick Thompson
www.wealdenwoodturners.org.uk	

Multi Stations covering the following:

Tool technique with John Turner and the use of the club Rolly Munro hollowing tool.

Mo Draper on thread chasing and using the club thread chasers.

Sandra Day on air brushing techniques

Gareth Garner sharpening tools with the club Sorby sharpener.

Mike Pollard and Pete Hawes texturing and the use of club texturing tool.

John Packer making SIMPLE items with kind tools.