



Bottle opener – Nick Milton

Following a trip to a rather grand touristy house coupled with a visit to their sales room Nick saw a bottle opener. It was a simple device in the form of a small turned handle and a nail. Sale price £15. Nick, taken aback by the price of such a simple device, resolved to break the market by getting all of the club to undercut the price. Hence the evenings demo.



As can be seen in the photograph the device is a small tool handle with a nail bent inserted. On the nail head side there is a shallow flat made to sit on top of the bottle top. The difficult part of making this simple device is bending the nail close to the nail head. The nail head needs to grip the underside of the crown top with the handle horizontal, or better, just slightly raised.

Nick took a scrap piece of branch he had recently pruned, pointing out that everybody had bits this size somewhere in their workshop or garage.

Should you be asked to demo at a craft fair or just to have a stall at one here was something you could 'turn' out in their dozens.



Start with a bit of branch



Nails before and after bending



The key to a successful opener is the bent nail. This is apparently rather difficult to achieve. You need to hold the nail in a vice and then tap or use pliers to obtain the hook shape. The handle is drilled to take the nail but allow for a final tap in. The nail is held in place permanently with glue.

Nick's nearly finished handle with just a nail to be inserted.



Take note

Attendance at the last three meetings has been down on last year. Whilst some demonstrators like an intimate group most prefer to address twenty or more. There are good reasons why numbers are down but the continuing life of our club depends on reasonable numbers being there each month .

Two new people have picked us up from our web page but word of mouth is still the most effective way with something like wood turning.

We are a small fairly relaxed club with members skills from a professional to a virtual starter.

Back to basics sessions which are held every so often allow every member a chance to get some tutored practice. For example our next session includes sharpening when members get a chance to use tools they haven't got at home.

Our demo evenings can be by professionals or skilled amateurs from other clubs. There are our own home grown 'experts' who will from time to time demonstrate turning a special item.

If you know someone who may be interested bring them along to Offchurch first Thursday in the month, except when there are elections on first Thursdays, there seem to have been rather a lot lately!

Progress report on clubs project "Mrs Woody"

The making of a companion to Mr Woody has been delayed but not abandoned. There has been a problem with getting the original drawings copied added to which has been the obtaining of suitable wood. Mrs Woody was originally going to be for the Daventry show but when we could find no one to staff the stand on the Thursday the project was put in abeyance and somewhat forgotten.

It is the committee's intention to go forward with this project in the next months.

Forthcoming Attractions – 2017

Meetings normally are on the first Thursday in the month except when there are elections. Meetings start at **7pm**.

July 6 th	Hands on – back to basics two and sharpening	7pm
Aug 3 rd		7pm
Sept 7 th		7pm

Remember: members who demonstrate will receive payment.

Committee

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