



Forthcoming Attractions

- May 12th - Hands on Evening
- June 2nd - Demo by John Johnson
- July 7th - TBA
- August 4th - Hands on Evening
- September 1st - Demo by Chris Eagles
- October 6th - Hands on Evening
- November 3rd - Demo by Peter Fagg
- December 1st - Hands on Evening

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John Berkeley's Demonstration

John came to demonstrate how to put a screw thread onto pieces using an Ashley Giles unichaser tool. But like most of our demonstrators he talked about and demonstrated much more. He used a cylindrical block of polyester resin as his start point to make up a small box with a screw lid.

Polyester is heavier than most woods and its dust simply settles to the floor. John is nowadays susceptible to wood dust on his chest and he was a great pains to point out the need for extractors or alternatively wood that produces a heavy dust.

Another safety matter John highlighted was that when making threads you are often working close to the chuck. It makes sense then to just take off the sharp leading edges of the chuck.



John working on the box lid, hollowing out prior to using the unichaser tool.

Note the way the plastic comes off in ribbons.

When working plastic unlike wood John advocates using the tools at a negative rake as you would a scraper tool. In fact 90% of the work on the plastic box was done with scrapers of one description

or another. Speed too must be kept low around 450rpm otherwise the plastic will melt rather than be turned.

Once the top was prepared it was time to apply the thread making tool.

The prepared rim is slightly chamfered and the tool is simply drawn against it to make its own thread. It was at this point the John advocated using an arm rest. This is used to pull the



unichaser onto the rim

Here the arm rest is being drawn back by the left hand as the right hand guides the tool onto the rim.



With the lid done John moved onto work on the base of the box. Again hollowing out and finally preparing a rim to take the thread. This time the tool is reversed and applied to the outside. This rim as before is slightly chamfered.

Once the threads are made and checked the box is finished and polished. Plastic behaves in this respect like wood and sanding is done increasing the fineness of the grit to finish off with "T cut" to give a final shine.



The finished box

John was asked to recommend woods that would take a thread. The wood needs to be fine grained such as Box or African Black wood. It was virtually impossible to put screw threads onto soft woods.

June meeting. Demo by John Johnson.

John covers quite a wide field of work from pens through to large pieces. At the June meeting he will be demonstrating the making of a Yorkshireman's bowl. The computer savvy will find he has a web page.

You have a new editor of Woody's World and it will take me some time to emulate David who has done such a good job these last years.