

Extract from Newsletter issue 145 dated December/January 2010

Observations Avon WEWS October 2009

George Walker commenced his demonstration of making boxes with a difference. Several examples were passed around, these included a music box with a pot pourri lid. George explained the usage of the Gifkins Dovetail Jig and his set up of three routers in a bench so that bit changes were not needed. George demonstrated the cutting of the dovetails and then the pins passing around the fitted joint. He then dry assembled the box with premade top and bottom. After sanding the box is then glued up and polished and when fitted with hinges, locks etc the box is complete. George then explained another method of box construction when the box is made in one piece and the lid is then sawn off. A very interesting demo particularly for those turners who might like to try a different type of woodwork.

Extract from Newsletter issue 148 dated June/July 2010

Observations Melville WEWS 2010



The first demonstrator, **George Walker** showed us uses of a rotary clock movement.

George explained that he was from an engineering background which helped him to pursue his hobby of restoring and creating clocks stating that he had built over thirty including many of grandfather size.

George told how he uses the anniversary clock movements obtained from Mayama Gems to make a variety of styles of Pot Pourri bowls with moving figures or objects adorning the lid.

George explained how he makes all his own tools some of which are specially designed for the particular item he is making, he then showed how he turns the

bowl allowing for the clock mechanism to fit into the base. The lid is then turned to fit the base, after which a vase was turned and hollowed and fastened to the lid and also connected to the drive shaft. The lid was decorated with a dremel, and small flowers placed in the vase to complete the job.

George passed around many examples of his work, he had also prepared two kits to duplicate the demo item and Brian Fowlie was given the task to raffle them to some very fortunate member.

Extract from WAWA Newsletter issue 160 dated May 2012

Observations Melville WEWS April 2012

Ever wondered what is a six-point strephohedron?

Well, **George Walker** knows, as he has made several of them, and was to demonstrate this skill to the audience. George has an engineering background which is reflected in the accuracy of his work, the complicated maths involved and the quality of the equipment and jigs he has produced. George passed around examples of his work together with a copy of David Springett's book "Woodturning Full Circle" which provided him with inspiration.

George had constructed a Cole Jaw piece of equipment, with a circular centre mounted in a chuck. To this he fastened a jarrah ring and turned first one side then reversing to cut the other so as to obtain an accurate equilateral triangle shape. George then made the smaller circle in a similar manner but using specially turned pin jaws mounted in the chuck. After separating the glue paper joints and sanding he had four half circles, two large and two small. Using a special drilling jig he had made, George fitted the studs and screwed the strephohedron together.



Extract from WAWA Newsletter issue 163 dated November/December 2012

Observations Busselton WEWS November 2012

George Walker demonstrated, his gimbal compass (i.e., one that will swing on both axis). To save time, he had pre-prepared a thin round blank, with a routed edge, as his base. George turned two 19mm cross section rings, the first with a bore to hold the compass body,



**GEORGE WALKER'S
GIMBAL COMPASS**

and the second marginally larger than the first. Both were regularly checked with a Formica template for accuracy. Utilizing one of his famous jigs, and a chuck mounted on the tail stock, George drilled holes exactly opposite each other, in both rings. In turning the columns required to hold the outer ring, George produced another of his "toys", being a huge industrial Jacob's chuck, into which he could hold small square timber lengths.

This was also an opportunity for George to show us his skills with a home-made beading tool.

Three small flat feet completed an excellent presentation.

Extract from WAWA Newsletter issue 166 dated May/June 2013

Observation from Melville WEWS April 2013

George Walker was next with a demonstration of a ball and roller race.

George passed round a sample of his work made with balls and rollers, explaining the history of making ball bearings to the present mass production methods.

All measurements are calculated through the centre line of the balls, rollers and races. George then commenced to make the bearing and explained that he uses high quality dowel as well as a variety of specially made tools. With the dowel threaded through the lathe, George uses a special cutter that also measures the ball size. He partially cuts through the dowel, finishes with a skew chisel, and checks his work with a specially made gauge to measure the ball. To make the roller George uses a steel plate held in the chuck and drilled to fit the pre-cut dowel. A recess is made in one end, then reversed to make another recess in the other end. With an engineering chuck and specially made tools, George turns the inner and outer races to fit the rollers. Once the race is adjusted to fit the rollers, the assembly process begins, and the race is completed. The process requires extreme accuracy and great patience, which George has once again demonstrated that he possesses both of these attributes.

Extract from WAWA Newsletter issue 191 dated July/August 2017

Observations Mandurah WEWS 2017

The next Demonstrator was **George Walker**, who had a completely different demonstration, of de-construction and re-construction of bowls that had been sectioned and re-assembled into a different form. George described and displayed a jig to section turned bowls on a bandsaw. He also used scrapers to turn bowls including a two-pronged scraper to turn beads on the outside of a bowl to automatically space out the beads, a round nosed scraper was used to turn the inside of the bowl. It then needed finishing and sealing before setting up for sectioning for glue up. A variety of jig designs can be employed depending on the shaping of the cuts required. The accuracy of the joints and their finish is of paramount importance. Very well-done George, you highlighted many important points during the demo.



George Walker's fascinating deconstructed / reconstructed bowl work of art shown at the Mandurah Workshop

