

Observations Joondalup/Wanneroo WEWS October 2019

Jim Parker was next up with a fair-sized chunk of burl that he had embedded with resin in order to turn a bowl. As Jim pointed out, without the resin the piece of burl would not have been safe to turn anything of size. Jim took us through the stages of turning such a piece with lots of tips and advice. He also answered a number of questions about the use of resin. Jim did point out that one of the drawbacks of using resin is the cost and that it pays to carefully consider how much resin will be needed to complement the piece of wood you're treating. He also mentioned the need to re-sharpen tools often as the resin/wood combination takes the edge off very quickly. Another very interesting demo.

The demonstrator after the lunch break was to have been Jeff Gittos but, unfortunately, he was unable to attend. Instead, Jim Parker stepped up with a green stump from a book leaf pine he dug out of his garden last week. The demo was "what can I do with this stump?" Jim had mounted the stump onto the lathe and trimmed the roots (which were roughly claw-like spokes) with a saw to almost bowl-shaped. The stump was supported with the tailstock for most of the work he did on it. He shaped the "spokes" without turning the piece around and remounting it. After spraying woodchips all around, the stump began to take shape and the potential for the finished item emerged. Given the greenness of the stump, Jim didn't take it too far, but it was interesting to watch how an odd-looking lump of stump could be coaxed into an interesting and very unique item.

Once again ... thank you Jim.