

Extract from WAWA Newsletter issue 185 dated July/August 2016

Observations Melville WEWS April 2016

The final demonstration for the day was provided by **Rob Snowden** who demonstrated the art of making a crush/grind salt and pepper shaker with an offset top.

He started by making the top of the shaker by mounting a piece of timber between centres. After bringing the piece to the round he cut a spigot at one end, and he explained how he used the long point of a skew chisel to undercut the shoulder of the top. This was to ensure a firm fit when attached to the main body of the shaker.

Rob then went on to explain how he had already drilled the hole for the plug of the crush grinder.

He also advised caution when inserting the plug as the spring system holding it in place was very strong and it can in fact split the wood when being inserted.

Prior to inserting the plug Rob demonstrated how he used a hair dryer to apply heat to the plug thereby warming it up and making it more pliable. He then placed the plug into the hole and pushed it in until a distinct click was heard. Once this was completed Rob remounted the top onto the lathe in an offset position using a chuck with much longer jaws.

Rob then explained how important it was to ensure that the work piece was far enough into the chuck jaws to ensure a firm hold. Then using a spindle gouge and rubbing on the bevel side Rob shaped the top to the required shape and he explained how he had found that speeding up the lathe ensured a much better cut.

After changing to a chuck with shorter jaws Rob remounted the work. Prior to locking the jaws tight, he placed a plastic insert to prevent the jaws marking the work. Sanding to a grit of 400 the top was completed.

Next it was onto the base of the grinder and again using a spindle gouge he went about bringing the piece to the required shape.

Lastly using a chuck with a set of pin jaws Rob remounted the base piece and cleaned up the bottom of it. The pin jaws fitted nicely into the hole in the base piece.

Another very good demonstration.

Extract from WAWA Newsletter issue 189 dated March/April 2017

Observations Melville WEWS February 2017

Unfortunately, nobody has put their hand up for this role as yet, so this is a brief recollection.

Rob Snowden ended the demonstration part of the workshop with a very cute echidna family. These simple looking little pieces required some offset turning for the long nose and some careful marking out for the appearance of the body, which wasn't actually spines but looked unmistakeably like an echidna.

A lovely way to use up small bits of wood.

