



Martock and District Woodturners Newsletter

November 2024

News

December's meeting is our traditional "show and tell". Please come along and bring something to show, however humble. Whilst we can all be envious of other members skills it is always good to see where others have reached in their woodturning journey.

January is our AGM. This time it has been proposed that we include a light buffet supper – details to follow. At the AGM we will be looking to elect a Programme Secretary as Dave P will be stepping down. We are thankful to Dave for stepping in to act as programme secretary this last year, but it was always going to be an interim solution. If you think you could give back to the club by doing this job, have a chat with Dave who will gladly give you an insight into what is involved. All the bookings for next year's programme have been made (the full programme will be revealed at the AGM in January!).

Final Reminder

If you haven't already paid, subscriptions for 2024/25 were due at the beginning of September

As agreed at the last AGM, these will be £65 for the year. Payment by bank transfer is preferred.

Please give your name as reference so Andy knows who has paid.



Diary Dates

Tues, Nov 26th Club night – 7pm, Ash Pavilion – Paul Sweet

Sat, Dec 7th Hands-on– 10am, Yandles Training Room

Tues Dec 10th Club night – 7pm, Ash Pavilion – Show and Tell

There is no hands-on in January

Tues, Jan 28th **Annual General Meeting and buffet – 7pm, Ash Pavilion**



October Club Night – Dan Tarrant on Tool Sharpening



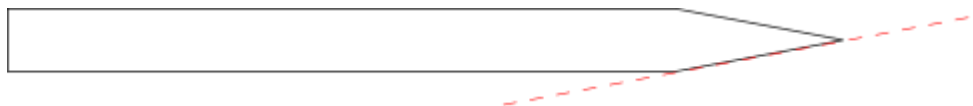
Dan will be a familiar figure to anyone visiting Yandles, where amongst other things he is a woodturning demonstrator and tutor (if you are free on the 27th December then do go along and support him). He is also an ex-member and promoter of the club.

Although he has obvious connections with Yandles he emphasised that he was not here as a salesman –it was to talk about sharpening safely and sharpening so that you can get the result that you're looking for.

Flat Grind of hollow grind – what is the difference?



A hollow grind gives the bevel a convex shape and is produced when sharpening on a wheel (bench grinder, Tormek, etc). The cutting edge is less durable since it has less material behind it, but can be quickly re-established by using a diamond hone since material will only be removed from the two edges of the curve.



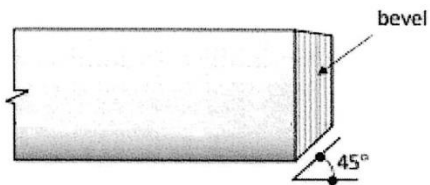
A flat grind is produced by a lisher such as the Sorby ProEdge, the Axminster Ultimate Edge or similar. This produces a stronger edge with more supporting material, but requires removal of material from the entire length of the bevel when touching up the edge.

From a usage point of view, there is no real advantage of one over the other.

Bevel Angles

Bevel angles are largely a matter of personal choice and (within certain limits) are not particularly important. In most cases something close to the factory delivered grind is probably best. There are always cases where more extreme angles are useful, such as a bowl gouge with a flatter bevel for doing the bottoms of deep bowls, a spindle gouge with a more acute angle for narrow details or a skew chisel with a more acute angle for softwoods.

Spindle Roughing Gouge

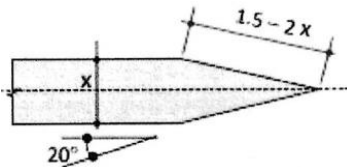


This is typically square across the end with the bevel at 45°

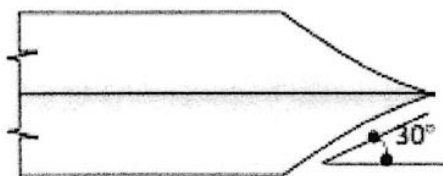
Skew Chisel



The skew angle is typically 70° with the bevel at 20° on each side. A more acute angle might work better on softwoods such as pine (e.g. 15°).

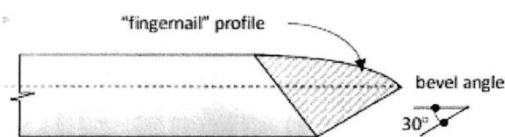


Parting Tool



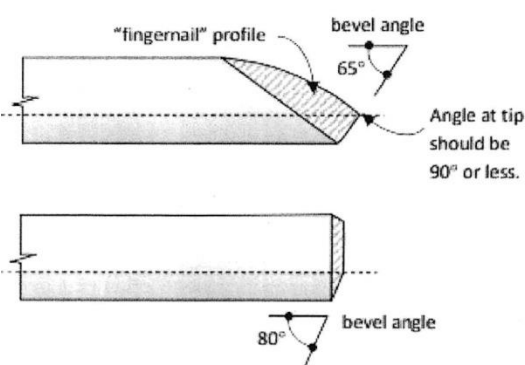
This tool is ground square across the end with a bevel of about 30° on each side, although some turners like a slight skew angle on the end.

Spindle Gouge



A spindle gouge usually has a fingernail profile with a 30° bevel. If it is bought new it will probably have a straight grind with a 45° bevel angle.

Bowl Gouge



A bowl gouge can have either a "traditional" straight grind, or a fingernail or swept-back grind. The bevel angle can be between 45 and 65°.

A new bowl gouge with a traditional grind will normally have a 45° bevel angle, but an 80° bevel is useful for turning the bottom a deep bowl without the bowl rim interfering with the cut.

Using the Sorby ProEdge and Tormek Systems

Dan spent most of the evening looking at the two sharpening systems he uses and the various jigs and accessories available. If you need any advice on either of these systems then you can find him in Yandles for a chat.



Gallery

Here is where we display any items made by club members in recent weeks.



Mallee burr & resin – Steve A



Ebonised oak – Charlie W



Laburnum spiral – Phil O



Spalted beech box – Dave A



Ebonised cherry – Charlie W



Yew bowl - Dave A

Please send photographs of anything you have made to newsletter@madturners.co.uk, or better still bring them along on a club night to put on the inspiration table for all to admire.

Timber of the Month – Matumi



Matumi (*Breonadia salicina*) is a protected tree which is found in tropical and southern Africa from Mali and Benin east to Ethiopia, south to South Africa, as well as Yemen, Saudi Arabia and Madagascar. It is known locally by a number of different names such as Mingerhout, Mohlomê, Mutu-lume or Umfomfo.

Matumi is a medium to large evergreen tree that can grow to a height of 40m (130 ft), although they are normally a lot smaller than that. It is generally found in subtropical to tropical climates on river banks or in the waters of a stream, and can be found in areas up to 2,000m (6500 ft) above sea level. Most of the available timber is now responsibly sourced from managed forests.

Matumi wood is a premium hardwood renowned for its strength, durability, and aesthetic appeal. It has a rich golden to reddish-brown hue, often with dark streaks, and a fine, smooth grain. It turns well and will take fine detail. It has a waxy feel, which tends to clog abrasives and inhibits the use of oil finishes. Its durability ensures it performs well in both indoor and outdoor environments and is often used for luxury furniture, flooring, cabinetry, and outdoor applications. Locally it is used in boat building, particularly dugout canoes.

This species is often used in traditional medicine, treating diseases like arthritis and illnesses like diarrhoea. Leaf extracts have been found to have anti-bacterial properties which can aid the preservation of food.

Don't Forget to Use Your Club Discounts

Just present your club membership card (it may be worth checking beforehand whether a discount will apply to your intended purchase)



10% off most items, except power tools.



10% off all timber and finishes

If you have anything you would like to share through this newsletter, or have any ideas of what you would like to see included, please let me know by emailing me at newsletter@madturners.co.uk.

Thanks, Dave H