

Peter Blake - Multi-centre and split turning - 15th October 2003

Reviewed by Fred Cannings (photos Gregory Moreton)

Multi-centre turning, as the name implies, involves changing the position of the drive and tailstock contacts with the wood during stages in the turning process. Split turning involves making a paper joint between faces or two or more pieces of wood and splitting the joints after turning.

For his demonstration Peter produced a pair of small semicircular wall shelves, each with a tapered flat back support.

During his turning he emphasized a couple of safety points:

Do not use hard points on the centre of paper joints as this can cause the joints to part. Peter preferred to use a four-prong centre drive and a ring tailstock centre.

Do not trust the paper joints to hold against the turning forces.

With unbalanced work - 'mind your knuckles'

Peter concluded his presentation with a talk and demonstration on thread cutting.

He said the close-grained wood such as boxwood was the best for thread cutting and to remember to allow the thread depth in the preparation of the item to be cut.

One tip was to cut the female thread first as it is easier to adjust the male side.

This was an interesting evening, kept lively by Peter's style of presentation and the club's appreciation was shown in the usual way.

