

WSQ Forum Lidded Boxes

Saturday 19 October 2019

This month's forum on lidded boxes brought together a small group of members who all brought along some interesting and challenging projects. As the attendees were all quite experienced wood artists, the quality and intricacies of some of the items was high. Peter, Garth, Rob and Gary presented their work discussing things such as The Da Vinci Code and Café Wall Illusion.

It was concluded by those present that a lidded box was a very open description. Many of the items did not bear much resemblance to a simple cylindrical design. A bowl with a lid, A piece of fruit with a lid and bandsaw box that was so much more.

Gary's segmented piece was more like a segmented rocket, but the rings on the outer rotate and if you line them up correctly it comes off to reveal another segmented rocket or an oversize pencil. The segmented tops unscrews to fulfil the lidded box criteria. Gary took inspiration from a cryptex boxe made by legendary segmented American turner Malcolm Tibbets who got the idea from The Da Vinci Code movie. Check out <https://tahoeturner.com/other/> Below are two of Gary's works. The altar of the Knights Templar on the right, is for me spectacular



Peter brought a collection of items that would also be at home in several categories. One that was more of a standard design in NG Rosewood was finished inside with a blue flocking. I had heard the word many times but admit that I really had no idea of what it was. I am pleased to report that those present enlightened me with their knowledge on the subject. I have put that on my ever lengthening list of things to try. A well-presented wooden Apple also made it to the lidded box category.



Here is segmented lidded box bought at a show by Garth. It can be argued that it is perhaps a more traditional turners shape. The lid is a threaded. Threading was briefly discussed and those in attendance said they had found it difficult. Gary uses a jig no longer available.

I found it a visual challenge as it seemed to be causing me some vision issues. In spite of what you think you see, all the horizontal segments are parallel. It is believed to have been made Jim McConnachie of Mareeba . The idea is based on “the café Illusion wall”. Try the following YouTube link for a better understanding of the process

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xwemJ46oF5c>

It is probably feeling the effects of the severe dry here in the south east and some discussions were held on methods to stabilize the item.



Above we have Rob’s offerings for this months forum. The bandsaw box is made from one piece of wood. It is also a puzzle box that we felt was quite ingenious. We all enjoyed opening and then trying to get all the boxes back together. The piece on the right was turned from one log and some planning was required to ensure that holding techniques like screw holes were turned out in following steps. The lidded box hiding at the back had a lid that you turned which tightened, but was not threaded

As there no beginners in the group this week it might all seem to some that this forum was turners that wanted a challenge. Any of the forums can only bring about discussion on the items that are brought along. I would encourage members of all skill levels to attend and bring their items along. Those present are always happy to suggest positive ideas on how you can do something differently.

The WSQ Library contains a book Titled" Weekend Projects" in which you will find a plan and step by step instructions on a simple lidded box. Alan Short was kind enough to share with me an article from a demo in February 2015 by Liam O'Neil, "How to make a lidded box. It is also on the Carbatec website. <https://www.carbatec.com.au/knowledge-articles>



So the photo above shows some of the other items in the lidded box forum. I must point out that two of them started life as bowls. The Avocado seed is hollowed, so yes it's a lidded box too. Thank you to those members who contributed to a forum where I gained some more insights. It is the first forum where finish was not mentioned.

November's forum is the last for the year and will be on Christmas ornaments. It will be held Saturday 16th November.

Remember WSQ is asking members to make and donate items of a Christmas ornament for Rural Aid. This will be our effort to bring a smile to the people in the bush who are having a huge struggle to survive. If your gift can put a smile on a face and take a mind off hardship for a moment your gift is **priceless and will cost you nothing.**

Gary suggests for inspiration or just for the hell of it check out is Jakob Weissflog a turner /wood artist from Germany, Son Of Hans also a renowned turner