



PHOTOGRAPHS BY GMC/MARK BAKER, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Norwegian Woodturning Cruise – August 2011

This year's Norwegian Woodturning Cruise was an event not to be missed; **Mark Baker** reports and other turners who went on the cruise also share their thoughts with us here

Every three years one gets to hear about the Norwegian Woodturning Cruise. I had the privilege of being able to go last time as a demonstrator and was asked back this year. I knew from experience that it would be tiring and hard work, but it is also one of absolute pleasure, too. The Woodturning Cruise is more than just turning – although that is a major part of what goes on – but there is also a range of other activities such as carving, knife making – a hugely popular series of lessons that people subscribed to – felt making, chip

carving and so much more. Odd Erik, has refined what is done over the years and listens to all comments – good and not so good – to make this one of turning's most unique events. I think it true to say that the combination of the practical and the visual – as far as sightseeing and the chance to be in ports longer than you would get on a standard cruise in the area – is a huge boon and mind blowing as far as what is seen; this gives ample opportunity to explore the local environment. It is also the case that people meet up with old friends

and make new ones. It does seem like one big family when on the cruise irrespective of whether anyone is new to it or has been before. I also think that the crew on the ship were brilliant. The food was plentiful and superb. I know that the cruise costs quite a bit of money – this part of the world does – and that it will always be a juggling act as to affordability. As an experience, I can only say that the the cruise is fun, educational, inspirational and an event which will stay in your mind for many years to come.



MAIN: Bonnie Klein working on a spinning top



MAIN: Terry Scott running through a few techniques



MAIN: Crossing the Arctic Circle



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE HERMANN
MAIN: The MS Gann, the ship on which the cruise takes place

WOODTURNING DEMONSTRATORS

1. Richard Raffan – Australia
2. Glenn Lucas – Ireland
3. Åsmund Vignes – Norway
4. Jimmy Clewes – UK
5. Nick Agar – UK
6. Bonnie Klein – USA
7. Mark Baker – UK
8. Terry Scott – New Zealand

OTHER DEMONSTRATORS

1. Rolly Munro (woodturning) New Zealand
2. Wayne Barton (chip carving) USA
3. Bob Neill (pyrography) UK
4. Lars Stana (wood shaping) Norway
5. Tor Nyhus (wood shaping) Norway
6. Jostein Tvedt (woodcarving) Norway
7. Jim Stirling (scrollsawing) Australia/Norway

PEOPLE OFFERING TUITION

- Mark Hancock – UK
Knut Andreas Lien – Norway
David Muckle – UK

SUPPLIERS & TRADE STANDS

1. Ullform (feltng) Norway
2. Francis Tacq (Wivamac) Belgium
3. Inge Hågensen and Lars Tveit (knife making courses) Norway
4. Jerry Hammock (King Arthur's Tools) USA
5. Clive Brooks (Robert Sorby) UK
6. Tony Chalk and Bjarne Isaksen (Trend) UK
7. TEKNATool (New Zealand)
8. Mike Hunter (Hunter Woodturning Tools) USA
9. Håkan Persson (Tormek) Sweden

MONEY RAISED

There was an auction which took place on board the MS Gann, which raised money for the Norwegian Cancer Society. Money from the auction raised an impressive NOK 63,260 (£7,051). This beneficial charity works to improve the lives of those affected by cancer – patients and their families alike



MAIN: Clouds on the mountains on the way to Molde



MAIN: Traditional buildings on the river in Mosjoen

BELOW: Glenn Lucas showing how he makes cuts

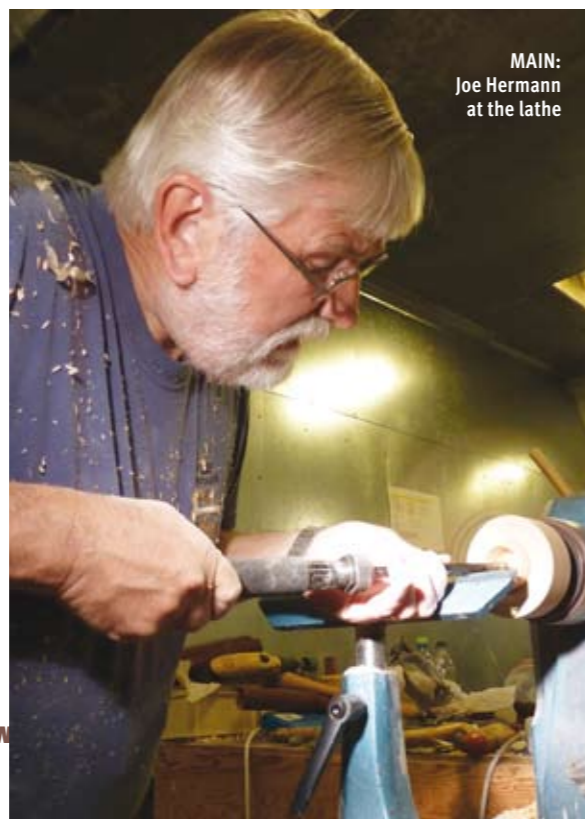


BELOW: Hanseatic timber buildings which form part of the Bryggen, or old wharf area



MAIN: Jimmy Clewes explaining a technique he uses

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE HERMANN



MAIN: Joe Hermann at the lathe



MAIN: Using a diffuser is not as easy as it looks

TESTIMONIALS FROM WOODTURNERS WHO ATTENDED THE CRUISE

JIM PEARSON

"This was the third Woodturning Cruise for my wife and I, and it speaks for itself that we have gone for three in a row. It is not the cheapest cruise in the world, but when you take into consideration all the benefits, it must offer the best value for money.

A dozen world class woodturners who in addition to demonstrating their skills throughout the 12-day trip, freely gave one-to-one tuition to all who requested it. There were also five lathes available for passengers to try their hand at what they had seen the experts do, with experienced turners on hand at all times to assist any beginners.

And it wasn't only woodturning, we had demonstrations of woodcarving, chip carving, routing and much more, with 'hands-on' for all interested.

If that wasn't enough, there was Norwegian knife making which proved to be one of the most popular events. I even tried this myself. And for the wives, there was felt making, cross-stitching and yoga for the energetic.

Add all this in the beautiful Norwegian scenery, with excellent weather throughout, and the result was WONDERFUL!"

TIM AARON

"For me the 2011 Woodturning Cruise was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see some of Norway but more importantly, to meet, watch and be inspired by world-renowned professional turners and demonstrators.

I wasn't disappointed on any count. The ship was laid out well, the food was great, the ports of call and excursions were amazing and apart from woodturning there were courses in chip carving, regular carving and traditional Norwegian knife (handle and sheath) making. No one fell out, fell overboard or fell in love (that I saw!). A brilliant two weeks of fun."

DAVID CARLEY

"To the astonishment of most of my friends, yes I was off on a woodturning cruise in Norway when they were sailing around the Caribbean. What a truly fantastic experience. A like-minded group of people aboard a ship specially modified with lathes, tools, accessory shop and manufacturer representatives. Daily woodturning demonstrations and tuition, knife making, chip and woodcarving tuition, scrollsawing, pyrography and felt making – a hit with the ladies. To top all this off was superb food, excursions every afternoon, and some of the finest demonstrators – this was absolute heaven to like-minded people. Talk eat and sleep craft, exchanging ideas and techniques, it was total bliss."

BELOW: Some of the pieces on display in the instant gallery



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE HERMANN

SIGHTSEEING TRIPS

- Sandane
- Geiranger
- Namsos
- Bodø
- Tromsø
- Hammerfest – North Cape
- Hammerfest – city
- Sortland
- Mosjøen
- Trondheim
- Ålesund
- Bergen

CONTACT DETAILS

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Next cruise: 11-26 August, 2014

MAIN: Houses lining the river in Trondheim



MAIN: View from the mountains looking over Tromsø and its surrounding area

