

BY HAND & EYE

The official newsletter of the Sydney Woodturners Guild Inc.

March 2013

Close off dates for articles for May
B H & E will be Friday 10th May 2013

Edited by Scott Rollo

NEWSFLASH!!!

learn to sharpen
progressively Pt. 1

Shop safety in focus

Mike Darlow special book
offer for Guild members

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****Views expressed by contributors are
not necessarily those of the guild****

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**ARE YOU A
DEMONSTRATOR?**

**DO YOU DISPLAY
WOODTURNING
TO OTHER CLUBS?**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO?

WE'LL THEN...



**PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST
WITH THE GUILD SECRETARY AT THIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: sydneywoodturners@gmail.com**

Hello Guild Members & others interested in Woodturning,

Another By Hand & Eye issue comes around, my how quickly these appear. By Hand & Eye exist only from inputs from our members, so I encourage members to try and be active and provide some input, our editor is struggling to keep interesting articles and information in the magazine for you.

Our next big function is our demonstration days at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. The Guild will have members at the show from Friday 22nd March for 6 days until Wednesday 27th March. I look forward to feedback from the RAS society on how well we entertained people over our time at the show. Some of you may meet me at the show as I will be there for the first four days.

The new Wood and Metal show was held recently in conjunction with the Stitches and Craft show. Western had a presence at that show and represented the Guild to a high level. I applaud their effort.

Macarthur had a presence at the Camden Show and again represented the Guild to a high level, again I applaud the effort.

With members like those mentioned above the Guild should survive for years and younger generations (even not so younger generation) can learn and enjoy the craft of woodturning like we already do.

Finally, Chisels are made to remove wood not flesh, lets keep it that way. Stay safe while turning.

Hasso Constantin
President,
Sydney Woodturners Guild Inc

The Guild has got some exciting milestones coming up in the next few months.

Firstly the guild are attending the Sydney Royal Easter Show demonstrating for the masses. We have the Usual suspects going along but could use more, so if you are of a mind to go along and jump on the tools then please contact David King on 02 97866749 or sydneywoodturners@gmail.com I am sure everyone would appreciate it if you were to put your hand up. The dates are from Friday 22nd April to the Wednesday 27th of April. We always get a very good response from the public who are very interested in the mysteries of Woodturning. It would be nice if there were a few people who could help and "spread the word"....

The other event that is happening this year is the 30th Anniversary of the Guilds existence. We are celebrating this at a special Anniversary meeting located down in the Southern Region's Cubbyhouse on the 28th September 2013. More details to follow but it looks like it will be a great day of celebration and acknowledgement of the fine people who have contributed to the great success of our Guild.

I believe that at this point in time there is not great numbers interested in going to this event - it would be a shame if we failed to celebrate such a great milestone in our history.

I would like to start a few features in the next issue of the By Hand and Eye to freshen it and make it more relatable to the Sydney turner.

The first of these new features I would like to run is a featured item from a member of the guild. Looking at the amazing piece that I featured last issue by Tony Hancox I came to a realization that pretty much every "maxi day" or open day that each club have, that somewhere, someone is doing work of this standard....and in the main, going un-noticed by the rest of the guild. So I would like to start featuring these Marquis pieces by our super talented bunch of turners.... BUT....and there is a big BUT here...I am going to have to rely upon the people taking the photo's at these meetings to take some snaps and to "interview" the turner and then get that info to me...I believe it will be worth it as it will give our amazing works more coverage and circulation.

The second feature is one that I have speculated before but now want to see go all the way...I want to do a feature on a turners "shed" - to give other turners idea's about setups and also see the scale (both big and small) and see some of these sheds that some amazing items are coming out of. This will involve a discussion with me and me coming out to take some photo's and YOU wanting to be involved. Apart from the turners first name and his club, no other personal details will be revealed. BUT....this also will not happen if no one puts their hand up...but ponder this....We have over 550 members and I am looking for SIX SHEDS A YEAR - **which is one member from each club every one and a half years** so it is not a massive ask...

One big Coup that you will see the results of in the coming months is welcome contributions from a highly distinguished and credentialed turner - His name is Alan Lacer and he is a former President of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW) and he has kindly allowed us to reproduce articles from his website. Give him a look at www.woodturninglearn.net where he has some great items in his gallery and he has a shop where you can buy some specialized tools and accessories.

Special thanks to the turners who contributed to this issue of the By Hand and Eye. It would not happen without your input. Keep those stories coming!!!

Learn to Sharpen Progressively Part 1

By Alan Lacer

Were these your first experiences in sharpening turning tools?

- You believed the tools came ready to use
- You thought because the ad said you could do 4,822 bowls without sharpening they weren't kidding
- When you did try grinding the surfaces you produced looked like a flint chipped arrowhead?
- In frustration you went out spent several hundred dollars for every grinding jig on the market only to discover they had not reached the level of a pencil sharpener
- You sent your tools to a sharpening service only to find they were sharpened like a saw blade.



I find the real problem of leaning to sharpen the tools is lost in the fact that it is a skill-just like turning-and it will take time to learn. The good news is that it is very closely related to the skill of woodturning.

At one time every conceivable woodworker learned sharpening skill as part of their activity-whether it be sharpening saw blades, axes, spokeshaves, chisels, or plane irons. Today however, few cabinet or furniture makers sharpen circular or bandsaw blades, planer and joiner knives, router bits or shaper cutters-either these have become throw away's or they are sent to specialty shops. Even the other domain where sharpening was essential to learn-that of carving-has often been replaced by spinning bits and cutters that require no sharpening, just replacement. Alas, the poor woodturner still must learn to sharpen. However there are considerable benefits to be had from learning this skill.

Sharpening is a skill that imitates/mimics woodturning. I mean by that: you take a turning tool and place it on a tool rest, it meets a round object approaching the edge, and you manipulate the cutting edge-sure sounds like what we do as turners. Learn the skill to sharpen and you are learning turning-and vice versa.

What you need if you are frustrated is a similar strategy that is used to learn many different skills: a progression from simple and relatively easy activities to something difficult and more complex. If you think about it, this is how most skills are acquired. If you take up playing the fiddle you don't start with Tshchockiys Violin Concerto as your first task-you probably start with playing notes, then scale, simple tunes and then progress in difficulty at the rate of your learning. The same is true with learning; math, cooking, computers, golf, drawing, driving, sailing, and it should also be true of sharpening turning tools.

The good news to all of this is that leaning those simple tasks first has several benefits: most of those tasks are also foundational-not just easy-and will be the basis for learning the more difficult maneuvers

Success builds on success-it is a far greater sustainer than failure and frustration. I wonder how many folks have quit woodturning over the years because they either could not sharpen the tools or found they frustrated about this sharpening thing, bear with me and try this progressive order of learning to sharpening your tools.

To begin with, you can't shape and sharpen your tools by hand. We can certainly hone the tools by hand-but that is only to keep a sharp tool sharp or to regain a small loss of keenness on a cutting type turning tool.

No, power equipment is the order of the day for a host of reasons, not the least of which is the type of tool steels used today. Most turning tools currently being sold are not just higher heat working steels but also higher wear resistant steels. Your grandpappy's Arkansas oil stone is going to have a tough go on a Glaser V-15 tool-or really on most of the English, Canadian, and Australian tools now on the market. And the fact that too many tools need major reshaping from their new condition, we will need some power assist to do the job.



Thoughts On Grinders

I find that it is not as simple as "anything will work" for a grinder. If you have a 3600-rpm grinder with a 120 grit gray wheel, 1/2" wide and worn down to 4" in diameter-it will be tough sledding. Nor do I find the slow speed water grinders to be my first choice for a grinder, nor a belt or disc sander either. For some strange reason I find that at least 90 % of the turners I know worldwide use a wheel grinder-must be some reason buried there.

Here are my grinder preferences: an 8" dry wheel grinder, with either variable speed or a fixed rate of 1725 (or 1800), rock solid tool rest system, and at least one decent wheel. The 8" wheel offers a lot over smaller and larger wheels: the 8" offers 25% more surface area for each revolution-which means greater efficiency, cooler grinding, and a much longer wear period before replacement. The 10" and greater diameter wheels leave too little of a hollow-grind for me-and I use the concave surface as a two-point honing jig (see [honin](#) article).

I prefer the dry wheel as the action is towards me-this allows me to determine from the spark trail a lot of things: where I am grinding, the degree of grinding, and when to stop grinding (sparks just trail over the top of the tool). With a water type grinder the action is away from me and there is no longer a spark trail (those grinders are fantastic for carbon steel tools like plane irons, cabinet makers chisels, scissors and the like-but not a first choice with most turners). I like the slower 1725 speed for a grinder as I aim to remove minimal material, it has a cooler action, and I just find it a more gentle action than a 3600 screamer (those seem to double my mistakes!). We are now seeing two-speed grinders and infinitely adjustable grinders on the market (which will probably be common with most grinders at some point).

If the tool rest assembly is flimsy, I cannot consistently grind my tools nor is it really safe to do so. Place your thumb in the center of the tool rest of your grinder and push down. You should feel virtually zero give-if it feels springy, improve or replace. You can add extra support strapping, build a wooden rest, or purchase one of several after-market accessories rests. Also, the rest should be adjustable both in angle and the ability to slide towards the stone to accommodate for wear as well as keeping the rest close to the stone for safety purposes. Finally a light is a worthwhile accessory to the grinder if one did not come attached to it.

Thoughts On Grinding Wheels And Dressers

First, work with the widest wheel you can fit to your grinder. In most cases this is 3/4" or 1"-but the wider the better. Next, throw away your gray wheels. Spend a lot or spend a little, but acquire at least one decent wheel to sharpen with.

The wheels I would suggest would be friable aluminum oxide-niow in patriotic colors of red (okay, often pink), white, and blue. The word "friable" refers to the ability of the stone to fracture exposing fresh grinding surfaces as you use it (gray wheels usually are not very friable, the cutting particles round over, thus reducing grinding ability and often glazing and generating considerable heat). The color-coding of these wheels make them easy to spot-however, there really is a difference between a \$10 wheel and \$100 wheel.



My advice: if you have an 8" grinder look for wheels that sell for between \$25 and \$55 and you'll be fine. Two other critical aspects of the wheels: grit size and hardness. I like to work with two different grits on my grinder. For initial shaping of a tool or any other heavy grinding operation I like to have a 36 or 46 grit wheel. For the actual process of sharpening an edge I prefer either a 60 (the new 54 grits are close enough) or 80 grit. My ideal is a 60 grit on the left side of my grinder (I am right handed, reverse this if you are a lefty) and a 36 grit on the other side.

It is hard to just look at a wheel and guess its grit size and hardness. Most stones have a code-in this case, the bottom row of numbers. The most important to a turner would be the middle number of 54 (grit size) and which is usually followed by the hardness designation (in this case a "J").

If you really pushed me I could live with a 24 or 36 grit gray wheel as the roughing stone-I would just be dressing it a lot. And finally, how hard should the stone be? Most stones-but not some of the real cheapys indicate the hardness (see photo xxx). This makes a difference in its friable quality and how well it performs on tougher steels. Stone hardness follows the alphabet scale from soft to hard as you go down the alphabet. Most of the stones commonly found range from H through K. My first choice is a J followed by the K.



Wheel dressers are essential to the sharpening process. Examples from left to right : gray dressing stick, tee diamond, round diamond, star-wheel, and in the foreground is a boron carbide stick.

Almost as critical as a good stone is a dresser. These are tools that perform a number of functions: true the wheel to the axis of your grinder, flatten the face of the wheel, remove the build of metal particles, and expose or sharpen the abrasive particles. There are several choices: star-wheel, gray dressing stick, boron carbide stick, and diamond. My suggestion would be the multiple diamond dresser (not a single point) in a round or tee shape. Place it by the grinder and use it to dress the wheels lightly but frequently.

Finally, deal with the hazards associated with tool grinding. One of the greatest hazards is to protect yourself from flying particles, whether they be grit from the wheel or pieces of steel removed in the grinding process. The plastic shields on most grinders are worthless to see through after a while- a full face shield is my first choice followed by goggles. And it should go without saying, only use a grinder with metal shrouds to contain the wheel just in case it shatters into pieces.

Another serious hazard is the dust produced from grinding. I like to think of it as ground up glass-which is not too far off the mark. I know of no turners who use a wet dust collecting system to direct the grinding dust into-but is more common with jewelers and other metal workers. And of course don't direct the dust into your normal wood dust collecting system-think of the drama of sparks and wood dust meeting!

What is most common is to wear a quality respirator, one rated for small particulate matter. And finally, keep the pinch and crush factor to a minimum by always working with the tool rest as close to the wheel as possible.

Order Of Learning

From my own learning and watching hundreds of students try to learn the sharpening process, I would recommend learning the turning tools in this order:

1. Scrapers (all shapes, but not including profile scrapers)
2. Parting tools
3. Skew chisels
4. Roughing gouges
5. Detail gouges
6. Bowl gouges

Sharpening Scrapers



Woodturning scraping tools are quite similar to the cabinet maker's scrapers (Background, shown with a burnisher). Both types of scrapers usually cut with a burr and both can make use of a burnisher to raise that burr. Turning scrapers obviously are thicker and heavier in weight and come (or can be made into) in a wide array of shapes for a specific purpose.

These are tools, of almost any shape, that are intended primarily to cut with a burr and not rub the bevel on the wood. Yes, I know we violate both of those guidelines from time to time, but that does not help someone who is starting out. Of all the turning tools these are some of the most straight forward to sharpen, very few really struggle with these tools in getting the basic process, and we don't have to be as fussy about shapes, angles, and multi facets on the ground face of the tool.

First rule of all turning tool sharpening: profile the tool first, and then pull a bevel up to meet that profile. For a scraper the shape is determined by the task at hand or personal preference. You will probably discover that the very slight dome on a new "round nose" scraper you just bought isn't very rounded. You may even find you don't use one side of the rounded end, so it may take on the shape of a side ground scraper. Whatever the specific need or your style of turning, shape the tool first.

Next, rough in the bevel angle. When most of these tools are new I find the bevel to be 80 to even 90 degrees below the cutting edge. I believe this started with the notion that a scraper needs a lot of support under the edge since you don't have the secondary fulcrum of a bevel rubbing tool to add extra support (your tool rest is the primary fulcrum). Unless your scrapers are 1/8" thick, this is a bad notion.

As a matter of fact, if I am using the tool at a scraping angle (with no bevel support) and the bevel inadvertently touches the wood, I can get a catch. I treat the bevels on scrapers as clearance angles, so mine are ground in the window of 45 to 60 degrees. I also don't have to worry about single facets and a hollow grind on the ground bevel: I don't hone the bevel on these tools so it is not as critical as it soon will be. However, grinding uniform bevels on these tools is great practice for all the tools to follow.

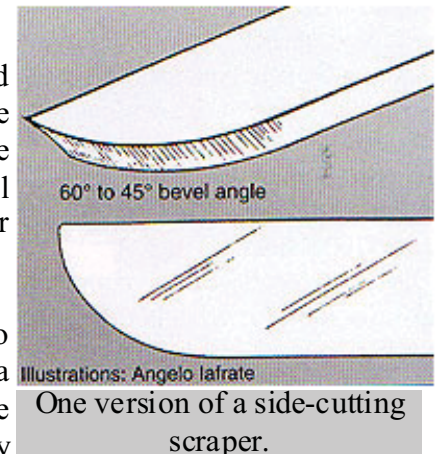
The process for sharpening is straight forward. After profiling proceed to grind the bevel to match the profile. If you need some assistance early on in sharpening, set the tool rest angle to that 45-60 degree window. Start at the back of the bevel and progress along the entire cutting edge until sparks just come over the top. I am not looking for a heavy stream of sparks, but even "tracer bullets" that tell me I have reached the cutting surface.

Now being a scraper, the burr that is raised will be my cutting edge at least 90 % of the time. I can use the burr right off of the grinder (especially useful if heavy stock removal is called for) or remove that burr with a flat stone and pull up a new burr with a cabinet maker's burnisher or even the honing stone.

By using one of the other methods I find it easier to produce different types of burrs-some for heavy work, some for fine finishing work. In those cases where the burr is too aggressive for a particular piece of wood (you may feel it "picking" at the wood rather than a smooth leveling action) try scraping with a sharp edge-produced by grinding, then removing the burr on top with a flat honing stone. This is similar to the action of scraping with the edge of a knife or the furniture maker scraping the top of a table with a large piece of broken glass. When you work a sharp edge in a scraping action, it may quickly dull the edge. However for that window of doing fine scraping it may be just the ticket.

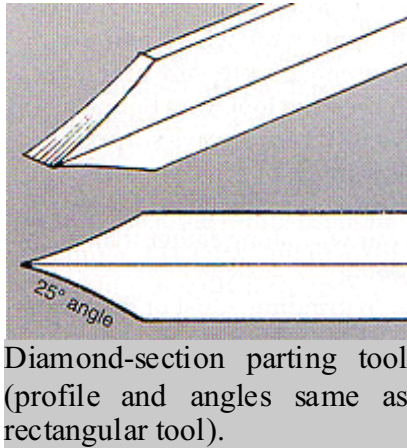
Sharpening The Cutting Tools

Now we come to the tools that start to cause problems for those learning to sharpen. These are tools that will cut with a keen edge and, in most cases, are presented at a cutting angle with the bevel rubbing on the wood. Now we become fussy about angles, uniformly ground bevels, and of course keen edges.



Parting Tools

There are several variations of this tool, but the most common will be a rectangular section of steel with the cutting edge in the middle and ground on both sides of the edge. This is a great tool to learn cutting tool sharpening as it has a relatively small area to grind (the edge is usually no greater than 1/4") and the edge is in a flat plane.



For profiling, make sure the edge is ground straight across, and the included angles are around 25 degrees (see diagram xxx). Fortunately of all the turning tools, these most often come profiled in an acceptable manner-not sharp mind you, but the shaping is normally okay. To sharpen, either set the tool rest at the approximate angle desired, use the edge of the rest as a steady, or use your fingers to adjust the angle.

Diamond-section parting tool (profile and angles same as rectangular tool).

Start at the back of the bevel (called the "heel"), keep the edge horizontal, and lap from side to side on the wheel until you just see sparks trailing over the top of the cutting edge. Flip the tool over and repeat the same procedure on the other side. Objective is to produce a single facet with a slight hollow grind. If your movements are controlled and steady this all happens; if jerky, uneven, inconsistent, too much pressure, "grind and look" and "grind and look" then things probably won't be so good.

Go slow, be deliberate, leave the tool on the wheel, and use only enough pressure as it takes to keep the tool from bouncing on the rest. I am always surprised how much of grinding and turning is really about feeling your way along rather than seeing.

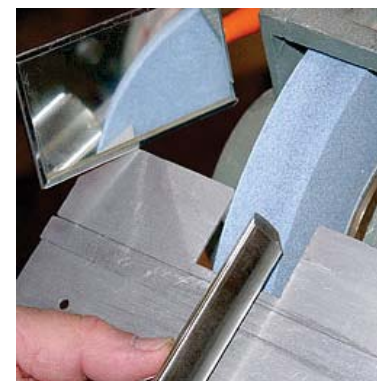
And in grinding most of the action is on the other side of what you can see. We can help the looking part along-especially when learning the process-by placing our head to the side of the grinder or by the use of a mirror (attributed to a North Carolina turner). In time most of your grinding will be by feel and watching the spark trail to give the additional feedback.

Skew Chisels

Fortunately the sharpening of a skew chisel is similar to the parting tool: two ground flat planes that meet to form a cutting edge. The only real difference is in the skewed angle of the cutting end-essentially a clearing and viewing advantage over a straight across chisel.

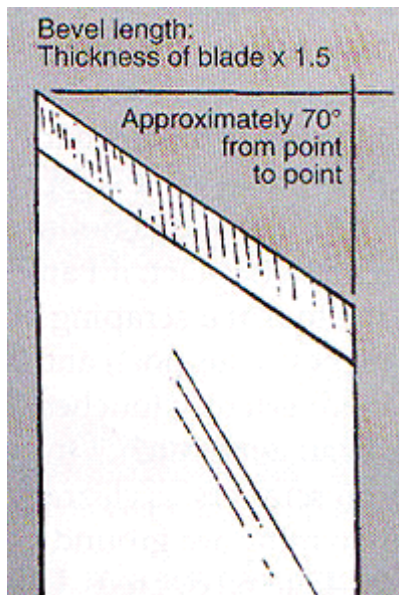
Again, profile the tool first. For a "traditional" straight across skew I would recommend 70 degrees from point to point. Rather than measuring included angles to measure the steepness of the two ground bevels, I use the thickness of the steel as the reference. Using this method, grind the bevels back to approximately 1.5 times the thickness of the blade.

For the sharpening process, follow these steps: keep the edge horizontal to the face of the wheel, start at the heel and lap back and forth. Continue this process until sparks just trail over the edge. Flip the tool over and repeat the same procedure.



Until you have a sense of where you are grinding on the tool, it might help to either place your head to the side of the wheel or make use of a small mirror. The mirror allows you to see your placement of the tool on the wheel.

If you have an "oval style" skew (my last choice for a skew) you will find it wants to wobble rather than remain in a flat plane. In that case maintain pressure in the center of the tool with a thumb to essentially lock it into a fixed plane. As an alternative, investigate a grinding jig that locks the darn thing in place.



Typical
grinding of a
skew chisel

Using the back edge of the tool rest, the curved skew is pivoted to grind the edge. Using a rotational movement, grind in the area that is roughly parallel to the face of the wheel.

If you are trying a curved edged skew, simply grind the edge while it is generally parallel to the face of the wheel—which will require a rotational motion that follows the curve of the edge. If the skew plagues you with multiple facets, go ahead and set the tool rest to the suggested bevel angle. Keep the tool flat on the rest and follow the above strategies. I have also had good success just using the front or back edge of the tool rest as a point to slide along for a straight skew or to pivot on while doing a curved edge.

Tests For Sharpness Of Cutting Tools

1. If you can see the edge there is no edge. Short of turning, this is the best test I know. Use an incandescent light to check for any reflection along the edge; a sharp edge disappears into a black line, dull spots reflect light.
2. What comes off the tool, dust or curls? Even in dry material a sharp tool forms a longer chip or ribbon, dull tools produce dust or very short chips.
3. How much effort does it require to remove the material? Unless you are roughing out a large piece, a sharp tool presented at the right angle is almost effortless; a dull tool requires more force.
4. What does the cutting action sound like? A sharp tool makes a sound reminiscent of a sharp hand plane; the dull tool sounds flat or makes a scraping sound.
5. How clean is the surface when you stop the lathe for inspection? Sometimes it is a difficult piece of wood, but generally a sharp tool gives far superior results to the surface of the wood.

Don't be too bashful in grinding tools. You really can't hurt them, you only shorten them.

Notes On Overheating The Tool

By now you may have come up against the problem of bluing the surface of the tool you are grinding. If you have high-carbon steel tools, you have a problem: the steel has now been re-tempered to a hardness that is too soft to hold an edge for woodturning. If you have high speed or high heat working tool steel-no problem. How do you know what kind of steel?

Generally the high carbon tool steels produce a complex, white, bursting spark when placed on the grinding wheel. The high speed steels tend to have individual, orange sparks. Often the manufacturer stamps the handle or steel itself with "HSS" or "High Speed Steel." I have found some inexpensive imported tools stamped with those designations, but sparked like high carbon tools-so be careful.

Here are my suggestions regarding overheating. First, learn to grind with a lightness of hand and movement of tool that does not overwork an area-thereby producing a lot of heat. And, of course, have friable wheels that just grind cooler, and dress the wheel often. If you have carbon steel tools-and some of my old favorites are of that steel-quench in water frequently if you must do some heavy grinding.

If you have high speed tools, don't quench in water: the effect may be too shocky for the steel and possibly produce small fractures at the cutting edge. The high speed steels easily handle temperatures of 700 to 1000 degrees F with no loss of hardness (bluing is around 580 degrees F). If the high speed tools are getting too hot to handle (during heavy grinding), I just place them on a large metal heat sink like a lathe bed and take a short break. The best rule for all steels, is learn to work without generating a lot of excessive heat.

This article originally appeared in the
American Woodturner Fall 2003 Vol 18, No. 3

I am pleased to be able to bring this article to the Sydney Woodturning Guild from a truly gifted and distinguished Turner. His name is Alan Lacer and he has taught, demonstrated and exhibited woodturning for over 35 years. He has definitely got pedigree and is well credentialed, being a former PRESIDENT of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW)!!! He's turned in every state in America as well as 5 foreign countries as well as numerous TV shows and has produced 5 videos on Woodturning. In 1999 He was honored by the AAW with their lifetime Honorary Member for his contributions to the field (Equivalent to our life membership!). It is with great pleasure that he has allowed us to reproduce some of his articles. This is part one of two articles on Sharpening which I am sure will benefit most, if not all turners. You may notice that most, if not all of Alan's work was published in the American Association of Woodturners magazine which must surely be the highest accolade a writer can attain!

Please check out Alan's website at <http://woodturninglearn.net> as he has stacks of top tips, a great gallery and access to a shop which has some cool items (anyone want to lend me the \$6153 for a oneway Lathe???) including a great stainless steel ice cream scoop which I will be ordering for next summer! Alan tells me he has sold stuff to Australia in recent years so feel free to jump online and snap up some difficult to find items. I thank Alan on behalf of the Sydney Woodturning Guild for this and future articles.

Although we live in a world that is ever-changing, some things in the woodturning world will never change. The following article on design was written by George Hatfield in the newsletter "Woodturners News" in June 1985, and is reprinted here with George's permission.

The "Woodturners News" was the newsletter of the "Woodturners Guild of N.S.W.", and that organisation is now known as the "Sydney Woodturners Guild", and the newsletter is now known as "By Hand & Eye".

"However personal design may become with individual experience, there are certain basics which cannot be violated with success. General rules apply (e.g. subdivision of spaces, etc.), but for every rule there is an exception to fit particular circumstances.

The article must basically fulfil the requirements of its use – a table lamp which is not easily upset and looks well set with the weight at the bottom. The right timber must be used for the purpose: will it shrink, split, warp and spoil the finished product? Is it basically strong enough? (A distorted bowl can be satisfactory but a bent candlestick is unacceptable.) The article must be strong where strength is required (small diameters, joints). It must be pleasing to the eye (if not yours nor mine then somebody's). It must fit the surroundings it is being designed for in style, colour, and finish.

Any one part of the piece may be made to stand out by:

1. Exceptionally large or small diameters.
2. Very plain or very detailed sections.
3. Fluting or reeding.
4. Carving.

but all of these only in limited areas.)

To get an attractive outline (The ten commandments):

1. The timber shall not be skimped, e.g. skinny, straight repeated detail seen commercially.
2. Design units on vertical articles shall be of unequal length. (Basic division of unequal length followed by detail in each division.)
3. Design units on horizontal articles shall be balanced on the centreline. (Equal or unequal divisions).
4. All shapes shall be full and well rounded.
5. Minimum detail shall be used on beautiful timber (The detail fights the grain).
6. All detail shall be sharp (Beads, etc. at 90 degrees to the axis).
7. Freehand compound curves shall be used (More pleasing than mechanical curves).
8. A theme may be used but not to excess.
9. Straight lines shall be used to a minimum.
10. Proportion of design units and diameters shall not be mechanical (easily judged by eye).

General: One way to start a design is to literally scribble on a piece of paper, then pick out portions of the scribble which give a pleasing effect for the article being designed. When designing spindles draw one side and then use a mirror along the axis to see the effect of the full diameter. Break the monotony of spindle work by slight variations of diameter along the axis. Use different finishes such as painting or sand blasting. Ensure that the height of a table lamp below the shade is the same height as the shade."

The supply of wood for our hobby can be quite diverse in regards to the sources. Let's pause for a minute and think where we acquire our wood.

I guess once we have parted with our hard earned money to initiate this hobby we try to seek suppliers that are reasonably cheap. But this story is not about looking for commercial sellers of wood. It is about the way we behave when we drive through a suburb that has garbage collection on the curb. The old adage of one person's garbage is someone else's treasure can be applied here. Then there is the odd branch or tree that had come down because of a storm. Both of these options can be a bit of a lottery ticket win, where the excitement levels are hard to describe. Then again the chances of winning the lottery are very high but when it comes to free wood, the odds are stacked on our side.

This event that I am going to talk about occurred over five months ago when there was collection of green waste in the suburb that I was driving through. Not a particularly leafy suburb but enough green waste for the expected odd tree branch. I could make this more exciting and say that this was spotted on the corner of my eye while driving at 60km, but reality is I parked the car and went for a little walk to look at a couple of piles. In one of these piles of green waste I found a couple of logs about 300mm diameter and 400mm long. As I am relative new to tree identification and I was not sure of the species. I noticed that one of these logs had what would have been part of your cyclone fence. It did look as though the tree had grown around and through it. A very quick decision on my part saw this placed in the boot of my car, along with some other pieces. The plan was to borrow a friend's electric chainsaw, that he originally acquired for free. After borrowing the friend's chainsaw I soon discovered why he had gotten this for free, it's cutting ability is something equivalent to cutting butter with a rounded stick. I turned to the tried and tested method of using a handsaw.

Now I can imagine my reader's reaction to the last sentence, that's quite a lot of work you may say but this handsaw had been recently sharpened. I wish I could say that this saw was passed from my grandfather but not the case. I picked this up from one of the tool sales as I also needed to know how to sharpen this, and so I attended a saw sharpening class. Now this saw cuts like a hot knife through butter (personally I like butter, you put it on your toast, but not too much).

I moved the log into the garage and started cutting with the handsaw it was then I discovered that I was cutting Camphor Laurel. The aroma from this log lasted over three days in the garage. The log had been cut into several pieces mainly separating the pith from the log. Painted the ends with some house paint, to minimize the cracking, I do not do that much milling to justify the expense of waxing.

One little tip that I might share is to date the pieces, it just makes it a little easier to keep track.

Moving forward to about a month ago when Sydney had heavy rain and wind resulting in some trees being blown down. At this stage there were four of us in the car on our way to a tool sale. Yes that's another tool sale. We noticed that there was a lot of cleanup happening but we were on a mission on acquiring more tools so we did not stop at any to take a look. We did discuss this on the way back and Mario and I decided that we should take a look at a log that was down in a park not too far from his house. As we had gotten closer to the log we discovered that this had been cut down a little while ago and the actual log size was bigger than my station wagon. The saying that comes to mind is one's eyes are bigger than one's stomach. After careful consideration (about 15 minutes) we decided to not try to take the log.

Christos Constan

WARNING

Turning wood can be a **SERIOUS** health hazard!

Unless of course you ...

- **Protect your face and eyes with a face shield.**
- **Protect your respiratory system and ventilate your work space with a proper dust collection system.**
- **Remove all moldy (Spalted) wood and shavings immediately.**
- **Protect your skin from toxic materials and possible allergies to some woods.**
- **Work sober, never under the influence of drugs or alcohol.**

This message is brought to you by

The American Assosiation of Woodturners

We care about your continuing good health and all the turnings you have yet to make!

This Sticker is the short form Guidelines to that which appears in the AAW Resource Directory, again issued to all members Annually, which contains a list of 20 Lathe Safety Guidelines which I reproduce here in full:-

1. Safe, effective use of the wood lathe requires study and knowledge of procedures for using this tool. Read and thoroughly understand the label warnings on the lathe and in the owners/operators manual.
2. Always wear safety goggles or safety glasses that include side protectors and a full face shield when needed. Wood dust can be harmful to your respiratory system. Use a dust mask or helmet and proper ventilation (dust collection system) in dusty work conditions. Wear hearing protection during extended periods of operation.
3. Tie back long hair, do not wear gloves, loose clothing, jewelry or any dangling objects that may catch in rotating parts or accessories.
4. Check the owners/operators manual for proper speed recommendations. Use slower speeds for larger diameter or rough pieces and increased speed for smaller diameters and pieces that are balanced. If the lathe is shaking or vibrating, lower the speed. If the work piece vibrates, always stop the machine to check the reason.
5. Make Certain that the belt guard or cover is in place. Check that all clamping devices (locks), such as on the tailstock and Toolrest are tight.

6. Rotate your work piece by hand to make sure it clears the Toolrest and bed before turning the lathe "on". Be sure that the work piece turns freely and is firmly mounted. It is always safest to turn the lathe "off" before adjusting the tool rest.
7. Exercise caution when using stock with cracks, splits, checks, bark, knots, irregular shapes or protrusions.

Hold turning tools securely on the Toolrest and hold the tool in a controlled but comfortable manner. Always use a slower speed when starting until the work piece is balanced. This helps avoid the possibility of an unbalanced piece jumping out of the lathe and striking the operator.

9. When running the lathe in reverse, it is possible for a chuck or faceplate to unscrew unless it is securely tightened on the lathe spindle.
10. Know your capabilities and limits. An experienced Woodturner may be capable of techniques and procedures not recommended for beginning turners.
11. When using a faceplate, be certain the work piece is solidly mounted. When tuming between centers, be certain the work piece is secure.

Always remove the Toolrest before sanding or polishing operations.

13. Don't overreach, keep proper footing and balance at all times.
14. Keep lathe in good repair. Check for damaged parts, alignment, binding of moving parts and other conditions that may effect its operation.
15. Keep tools sharp and clean for better and safer performance. Don't force a dull tool. Don't use a tool for a purpose not intended. Keep tools out of reach of children.
16. Consider your work environment. Don't use lathe in damp or wet locations. Do not use in presence of flammable liquids or gases. Keep work area well lit.
17. Stay alert. Watch what you are doing, use common sense. Don't operate tool when you are tired or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
18. Guard against electric shock. Inspect electric cords for damage. Avoid use of extension cords.
19. Remove chuck keys and adjusting wrenches. Form a habit of checking for these before switching on the lathe.
20. Never leave the lathe running unattended. Turn power off. Don't leave the lathe until it comes to a complete stop.

You have to admit this is all common sense, but how many of you flaunt these simple rules? I have and paid the price as a result, thankfully nothing permanent but painfully memorable and never flaunted again since. Although these are targeted towards the Lathe many apply equally to the Drill Press and Bandsaw as well as many other Tools in and out of the Woodturners Workshop.

The Statutory Regulations that exist clearly apply to a situation where People are Employed to do a Job of Work, to protect the Worker from being asked to perform Un-Safe Tasks and therefore putting the onus on the Employer, the question is does this apply to the individual in his own Workshop? my understanding is, no it does not, [in the straight forward context of, if I disregarded the Safety Regulations and have an Accident], unless I sue myself, I have no recourse.

But their content and advise is still applicable if you are a sensible and responsible person with regard for your own well being and the concerns of your Family.

However not all Countries are the same and we do have Countries where if you follow an idea or copy a suggestion given by a Third Party and it is clearly in breach of the Safety Regulations of that Country then I believe you can sue that Third Party for Damages in the event of an Accident.

This may well expose the information we are given in Magazines, Books and on Television as well as the numerous Web Sites, this one included, on the WWW, some of which contain Articles that often Contravene Safety Regulations and surely therefore begs the question, if copied and an Accident should occur could the Publisher / Author / Producer / Webmaster be sued for Damages? an interesting thought!

Magazines are the worst offenders, in particular those in the UK, compare what you see in American Magazines with those from the UK and you will be amazed at the different approaches towards Safety.

Eye Protectors and Masks every time or you just do not see the Head of the operator in US Magazines yet in the UK we get the excuse that you cannot see who the person is if he wears such gear, rubbish who wants to see the face anyway its the Operation he is carrying out we are surely interested in.

A recent series of letters in one UK Magazine is about the suggestion that when sanding you should wear Gloves to protect your hands , this is in direct contradiction to all Safety Guidelines (see guideline 3 above for example). As a side I do have to ask why do you need to protect your hands with Gloves when sanding? if it requires that amount of sanding then surely you have not Turned it very well in the first place and if it is because of the Heat then you are Sanding to aggressively.

You have to read the Editors response to the Readers Letter to clearly see that commercialism is foremost to Safety in the eyes of the Magazine in question, and to underline this they repeated the suggestion and this time showed a picture of the offending Gloves in Action one assumes the Hands inside are all their?

Articles around the use of Chainsaws are perhaps the Worst Offenders in respect of Safety in the wrong hands whilst wearing the wrong clothes this Tool can be lethal, I know we do not take all the precautions we should but responsible Publications should reflect the Current Safety Regulations that apply to the Use of any Chainsaw in any Hands by any Person.

A quick Poll of 3 Magazines revealed these blatant disregard's for any Safety:-

[A] Drilling of Wood with a Drill Press with the piece of Wood only Hand held.

[B] Turner shown Turning a massive odd shaped Blank (in excess of 700mm Ø) without Eye Protector or Mask (appears 3 times across two issues).

[C] Shop Made Chucks with Metal Protrusions (Jubilee Clips or Worse).

[D] Square Wood Blank held in the Left Hand whilst Drilling a Hole with a Hand Drill in the Right Hand.

[E] And of course the Gloved Hands approach to Sanding. all this in just 3 issues of one UK Magazine.

I have used all the items that are covered in the Hints & Tips Section of this Site successfully, without any accidents, for a number of years and as far as I can ascertain they are Safe as I have designed them and used them. A number of the Articles are solutions born out of the three Accidents that I have had in my workshop, the worst resulted in 3 stitches to an Eye Lid, I was Lucky a millimeter the other way and I could have resulted in more serious Sight threatening damage.

There are Practices I use in my Workshop that carry an element of risk but I take as much precaution as I can against the potential of having an Accident and therefore these practices remain for my knowledge only, they are not unique and many Turners do as I do but are, I'm sure, also aware of what it is they are doing, even if we are not in total control.

The [Links Page](#) of this Web Site also has Links to various Safety Orientated Sites they are worth reading and they can help you come to your own conclusions as to what you will or will not do in your Workshop in the future.

Remember you can only be as good a Woodturner as you were when you had all your Faculties, do not let a stupid Accident deprive you of your Hobby and reject Publications that try to say otherwise, or as the AAW puts it "all the turnings you have yet to make" well done the AAW.

Public Notice....

IN RESPONSE TO ALL THE E-MAILS CONCERNING MY DOG.

Please be advised I am sick and tired of receiving questions about him.

Yes he mauled six boat people wearing Julia Gillard T-shirts, two rappers, nine teenagers with pants hanging down past their cracks, eight customer-service-desk people speaking broken English, three flag burners and an illegal immigrant taxi driver.

FOR THE LAST TIME... THE DOG IS NOT FOR SALE !!!



I AM TRYING TO TALK HIM INTO QUITTING SMOKING, BUT HE SAYS IT HELPS GET THE CRAPPY TASTE OUT OF HIS MOUTH.

60% off Mike Darlow's woodturning books for a limited period

Mike has to vacate his book storage space. He's therefore offering club members 60% off the r.r.p on all five of his colour woodturning books.

Mike's woodturning books are regarded by many as the world's best. The five books provide an unparalleled compendium of woodturning knowledge. For full details of their contents go to www.mike@mikedarlow.com

If you have some of Mike's books, this is the ideal way to complete your set. If you don't yet have any, now's the time. And you can save more by combining your order with that of one or more of your woodturning friends.

How to order

1. Decide how many of each title to order (they all have the same unit price within an order). For full details of each book's contents and reviews go to www.mikedarlow.com.
2. Determine the cost of your order from table 2 on the next page.
3. Then either:
 - a. Complete the order form on the second page, and post it with a cheque or money order (or transfer the amount directly into Mike's bank account as detailed in b below) to:
Mike Darlow, 21 Wilsons Lane, Exeter, NSW 2579.
 - b. Email your order (scan the completed form or include name, delivery address, telephone number, email, the club you belong to, and details of books required to mike@mikedarlow.com. And using internet banking deposit the payment to Mike's bank account (The Melaleuca Press, BSB 032 723, Account number 103894), or post a cheque or money order to: Mike Darlow, 21 Wilsons Lane, Exeter, NSW 2579.
 - c. Collect books personally (ring Mike first on 02 4883 4455) from 21 Wilsons Lane, Exeter, NSW 2579.

Books will be sent by Australia Post recorded delivery within a couple of days. To check on progress contact Mike by email at mike@mikedarlow.com or by phone on 02 4883 4455. This offer remain open to 31 March 2013 or until titles sold.

You can also add to the order any of Mike's three woodturning videos (details at www.mike@mikedarlow.com, price \$49.95 each) and his new graphical accounting book (www.seethemoney.com.au, price \$60 excluding postage) all of which will be sent post free.

Table 1

Book title	Subject	No. of each ordered
The Fundamentals of Woodturning	Woodturning basics	
Woodturning Methods	Chucking and other methods	
Woodturning Techniques	Special techniques	
Woodturning Design	Designing woodturnings	
Turned Chessmen	History, design and making	
Total number of books ordered		

Table 2

Number ordered	Cost each (\$) (Usual price \$49.95)	Total cost including postage (\$)
1	22	22
2	20	40
3	19.67	59
4	19.50	78
5	19.40	97
6	19.33	116
7	19.29	135
8	19.25	154
9	19.22	173
10 and more	19.20	192 + 19.20 per extra copy

Order form (Email to mike@mikedarlow.com or post to Mike Darlow, 21 Wilsons Lane, Exeter, NSW 2579).

Your name _____

Delivery address _____

Your phone number _____ Your email address _____

Your woodturning/woodworking club or shed _____

Book title	No. required
The Fundamentals of Woodturning	
Woodturning Methods	
Woodturning Techniques	
Woodturning Design	
Turned Chessmen	
Total number	
Cost from Table 2 \$	

Method of payment (please tick): cheque , money order , transfer

Parts of woodturning can be cost effective....while other parts are more expensive than poison.

Buying a lathe is a major investment for the average turner...it is as a rule the biggest single investment you will spend on your hobby. Having said that there is a healthy trade in lathes from member to member as there is always somebody wishing to trade up or get something bigger/stronger/more powerful.

The next thing you might spend your hard earned on is a chuck or chucks....well worth their investment and generally something that most turners will eventually get their hands on.

You might next get a bucketful of chisels and get yourself down to some turning.

One option that some might get with their lathe and use a little or a lot is a faceplate. Now I personally love to use mine and if I had more I would utilize them as lathe mounted sanding disks. I am sure you know the type - a plywood or MDF disc screwed to a faceplate with some velcro backed sanding disc to utilize the lathe as a sander as well - I'm sure that there are plenty of people who don't have a dedicated disc sander in their shed's.



So I recently thought I would try and find a cheap alternative in the faceplate department to make several permanent discs.

We don't seem to be too blessed with budget faceplates in Australia - I guess we are a victim of our small population base with our turners. America on the other hand have a lot more turners with a substantial population base and that has led me to discover a lot of people recommending one type of cost effective faceplate. They are made in the US of A by a Chap by the name of William B Noble. He makes a large range of faceplates in different threads and TPI ranges. His site is at <http://www.wbnoble.com>

The best part about his faceplates are the price - He sells a 1 1/4" X 8 TPI with a 4" face which fit most of the lathes for \$10 each or \$45 for 5 faceplates. The only shadow to this ray of sunlight is that due to their weight it costs a bit to get them here from the USA - not totally bad but still...Bill tells me that he can do a USPS (U.S Postal Service) flat rate box that holds 20 faceplates for \$60 USD. So that means \$3 extra for each faceplate or in laymans terms \$60 for 5 faceplates delivered....which I think you'll

agree is a cracking deal. The only drawback is finding three mates to do the same deal... I think that these represent good value and to find anything close to this in Australia would be a challenge. I Will be buying some of these for myself and in the spirit of informing the wider turning community I present this to you all if this is something you've been looking for.



1. The volcano Krakatoa, in Indonesia, erupted in 1883. Giant tsunamis reached South America and took 36,000 lives in the coastal towns of nearby Java and Sumatra. The eruption was heard 3,500 kilometers away in Australia. Ash was propelled to a height of 80 km blocking the sun. The drifting dust caused spectacular red sunsets throughout the following year. An even more catastrophic eruption is thought to have occurred in about 535 AD. What evidence of this shows up in trees?
2. How many years has the Sydney Woodturners Guild been meeting?
3. What commonly used make-up accessory helps break down and remove CA [instant] glue from skin?
4. Many woodturners turn rough Morse tapers on small blanks and then knock them into the Morse tapered opening in the headstock. This allows them to turn miniature goblets, chess pieces and the like. Does the tapered opening hold the work better than a cylindrical opening would?
5. What are the largest wooden turned items? Clue: They were spindles and connected with transport.

A Country Woodturner - Ken Sullivan

There comes a time when each of us must decide just what sort of skill level we are satisfied to achieve as a Woodturner. If you don't mind my using potentially "confronting" words: "hobbyist", "professional", "leading light"... or some combination within or beyond that range. In this I do include that philosophical paradox: "If you don't make a decision, then you've made a decision". But the nice thing about any such choice is that you can always change your mind.

The first thing is to ask yourself: "Why do I want to do Woodturning?" And I suspect that there is very rarely just one answer.

For myself, the first reason is that I just cannot not make things. Quite literally, I can't sit still and watch TV at night unless I am doing something with my hands. If I do try to sit still, I tend to fall asleep, which causes some other form of controversy. I knit, spin, do embroidery, make rugs, braid... whatever I can easily handle during those "spare" moments when the TV program isn't all that interesting (Yeah, right!). Best Beloved doesn't approve of my doing woodwork in the house, so Woodturning and Woodwork are my most enjoyable daytime creative outlet. Besides, it gets me out of the house when the vacuuming needs to be done. Sometimes.

Secondly, I hate spending money. I am stunned by the creative genius of human beings and often want to have examples of it. We do make some marvellous and clever things. When I see something that inspires me and that I want, I usually think: "I can do that." I have always loved the look and feel of wood, and, at the time, I had been seeing things that turning would allow me to make. So I spent money (a lot of money! That never changes...) to get a big, specially made lathe and tools (this was more than 25 years ago. "Off the shelf" wasn't really an option back then...). And one of the first things I made was a Spinning Wheel, because I'd seen it in a book, and there was just no way that I was going to buy one.

Yeah, some of our reasons don't have to make sense... They are our reasons, after all.

And my next reason was the wrong one: I'd seen turners work at Daintree, on the South Coast and in Tasmania, and I figured it didn't look too hard. After all, the machine was doing all the work... All I had to do was hold the tool next to the piece of wood and watch those shavings just fly off... Easy!

Uh, huh.

So I bought books, and read the spots off them. Remember, I hate spending money? So taking lessons just didn't make sense. Besides, this was "Easy", wasn't it?

Well, after a year or so, Best Beloved got tired of buying Band-Aids, and I got tired of having my expensive tools shatter on the lathe because of my sheer ineptitude. For my birthday, she offered me lessons with a Turner of my choice. I certainly was going to take advantage of that, so I chose the Turner whose books had most inspired me: Mike Darlow. Plus, he worked nearby in Alexandria. The next weekend, we both went to pay a visit. Well, there was a little sign on the door: he'd closed up shop and moved to Exeter two weeks before.

So I bought more books for that birthday. I had made my decision that Woodturning was going to be a hobby, and I would teach myself through practice. I lived within 10 km of the Southern Region of the Woodturner's Guild, but just never got up the nerve to join. That was a decision, too... one that I now regret.

Well, after 15 years, I had improved to the point where I didn't need as many Band-Aids, and I had even managed to sell a few things (which I think is the highest compliment that a "non-professional" turner can receive. And the money is nice, too). I still read a lot of books, and would occasionally try to copy this and that. There was usually a variation in the design, which I called "innovation" rather than "inability". But more often than not it was reasonably successful. But I was beginning to realise that I would never be a "top quality" turner and create those museum pieces we occasionally see. I could do turning, but I didn't really understand it. And worse, I didn't know that I didn't understand it. So reading those books and then going to the lathe was occasionally an exercise in frustration.

Then I retired, and moved to Bundanoon. And discovered that Exeter is the village right next to Bundanoon. And that Mike was a member of the Southern Highlands Region of the Guild.

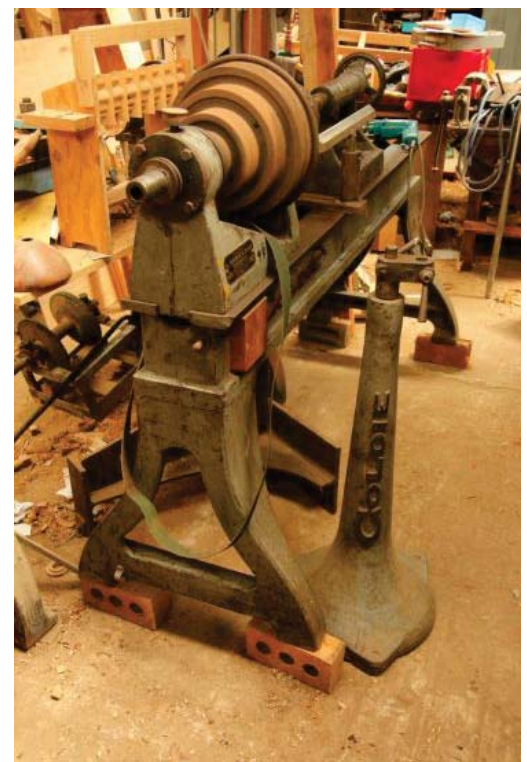
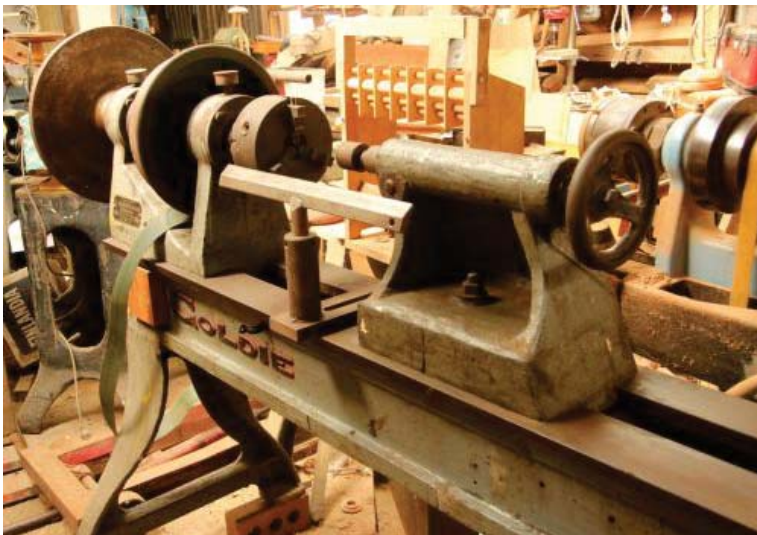
I took lessons from him, and attended meetings. And my skill has skyrocketed. There is something about seeing how a tool is held that I just never got from a book. And having Mike stand over your shoulder, insisting that you repeatedly apply the tool in the "proper" way is a terrifying experience, but does tend to break bad habits. As a result, now, I don't just copy. I understand enough about turning that I can make something "new and improved", and at least somewhat unique. And they sell better, too.

I will never be a "top quality" turner. I'm quite happy being a "hobbyist" who regularly sells some of his work, but I don't want to try to make a living from it. I suspect that I have too many other interests to really dedicate myself to that level of understanding and skill. But I turn better, and certainly a lot faster because I changed my mind about the sort of Woodturner I was going to be.

How about you?

1. It is thought that the floating dust spewed out by a giant eruption from Krakatoa around 535 AD blocked the sun so that it caused a decline in the rate of tree growth which lasted about 15 years. This can be seen in the growth rings of trees.
2. The Sydney Woodturners Guild started 30 years ago in 1983. George Hatfield, teacher in charge of woodturning at Sydney Technical College in Ultimo, allowed us to meet in the woodturning theory room and workshop and later at Lidcombe TAFE college. George dazzled us with his technical skill and vast knowledge of woodturning and Simon Priem [Vale in February Hand and Eye] baffled us with his apparently impossible creations. Some of you will remember the massive Wadkin lathe [2.4 m between centres] from the workshop. It survives, along with the horizontal drill press and the big electronic variable speed lathe that George designed, in the wood machining section at Lidcombe TAFE college. Some of the other machines met a different fate. Due to an incomprehensible blunder the 600 mm wide thicknesser, the 250 mm x 1.8 m long jointer, the two pedestal grinders, the 600 mm wide bandsaw and the beautifully pedestal drill press were all junked for scrap. Aaaagghhh!!!!
3. Nail polish remover helps break down and remove CA [instant] glue from skin because it contains acetone. Saliva is also reputed to work. Please let me know if you can confirm or disprove this.
4. The Morse tapered opening in the headstock holds tapered blanks for miniature goblets and chess pieces more securely than a cylindrical opening would. It is also easier to turn a rough approximation of the taper than a cylinder which has to be sized exactly. In the same way traditional tapered cupchucks held wood better than cylindrical ones.
5. Probably the largest wooden turnings are sailing ship's masts from the 1700s and 1800s.

Buy, Swap and Sell



For sale Goldie woodturning lathe. 254 mm centre height, 900 mm between centres. Several inboard and outboard faceplates and outboard turning stand. \$2,000 ono. Contact Mike Darlow, tel 02 4883 4455, email mike@mikedarlow.com

Here is a short list of Woodturning sites that will get us started with links to some very useful sites. If you have any links you would like to contribute send them to guildnewsletter@exetel.com.au

<http://www.sydneywoodturners.com.au/> our homepage

<http://www.wood-eze.com.au/> Leigh Ferguson's site – from his own shop in southern sydney

<http://www.laymar-crafts.co.uk/> Huge site with literally hundreds of useful links – highly recommended!

<http://www.trendtimbers.com.au/> large variety of timber, tools, lathes and finishes

<http://woodturninglearn.net/> Alan Lacer former president of AAW articles and useful tools

<http://www.carbatec.com.au> one stop shop for most woodworking varieties

<https://www.machineryhouse.com.au/> Hare and Forbes machinery

<http://www.addictivepenkits.com.au/> amazing pen kits with an impressive site

<http://aroundthewoods.com/> excellent site for beginner and advanced turner alike

<http://www.woodturningonline.com/> incredible site with literally hundreds of articles

<http://www.woodturner.org/> The American association of Woodturners

<http://mgorrow.tripod.com/links2.html> mega link to over 500 sites!

<http://www.woodturners.co.uk/> link to most UK based clubs & links

<http://www.woodturnersresource.com/> a great resource for the woodturner

<http://www.hiltonhandcraft.com/> a useful site for turners

<http://www.woodturningdesign.com/> Woodturning magazine site.

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~pwguild/> Mornington Peninsula site in Victoria

<http://www.woodturningvideoplus.com/index.html> very good site by a pro turner

<http://www.bigtreeturnings.com/> Professional turner site from America with some useful stuff

<http://www.rockler.com> Supplier of everything you'll ever need (in US dollars)

<http://www.penturners.org/> American site for the pen turner fraternity – most comprehensive

<http://www.woodworkforums.com> an enormous forum for everything wood and more

<http://www.woodturns.com/resources/woodturning.htm> a useful resource for the turner

<http://www.wbnoble.com/> a great source of faceplates from the US very reasonably priced

<http://sites.google.com/site/samshakouri/home> Sam Shakouri's page on Google groups

GUILD MEETINGS

Guides Hall, Waldron Rd Chester Hill	
<u>Month</u>	<u>Committee</u>
January	January 28
March	March 25
May	May 27
July	July 29
September	September 30
November AGM	November 25
All guild meetings 18:30 till finish President Hasso Constantin 9724 1203 or 0417 233 841	

HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC.

1 Shoplands Rd. Annangrove
<u>Saturday</u>
Feb 9
Mar 9
Apr 13
May 11
Jun 8
Jul 13
Aug 10
Sep 14 AGM
Oct 12
Nov 9
Nov Fri 29 Xmas Tea TBC
Saturdays 1100 - 1630 President Lindsay Skinner 9679 1055

BANKSTOWN CITY WOODTURNERS INC.

Guides Hall, Waldron Rd Chester Hill	
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>
Jan 5	Jan 8
Feb 2	Feb 12
Mar 2	Mar 12
Apr 6	Apr 9
May 4	May 14
Jun 1	Jun 11
Jul 6	Jul 9
Aug 3	Aug 13
Sep 7	Sep 10
Oct 5	Oct 8
Nov 2	Nov 12
Dec 7	Dec 10
Saturdays 0900 - 1600 Tuesdays 1800 - 2100 President Kevin Santwyck 9644 8366	

MACARTHUR WOODTURNERS INC.

Robert Townson High School Shuttleworth Ave Raby(maxi only)
<u>Sunday</u>
Friday 16th Mar. 7:30 - 4 pm demonstration @ Camden Show
Saturday 16th Mar. 7:30 - 4 pm demonstration @ Camden Show
Sunday 24th Mar. 9:30 - 3 pm
Sunday 28th Apr. 9:30 - 3 pm
Sunday 26th May 9:30 - 3 pm
Sunday 30th June 9:30 - 3 pm
Sunday 28th July 9:30 - 3 pm
Sunday 25th Aug. 9:30 - 3 pm
Saturday 14th Sep. 8 am - 4:45 pm BBQ Bunnings Campbelltown
Sunday 29th Sep. 9:30 - 3 pm.
Sunday 27th Oct. 9:30 - 3 pm
Sunday 24th Nov. XMAS Party 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sunday Maxi 0930 - 1500 cost \$5 President Paul Kruss 9823 8340

EASTERN REGION WOODTURNERS INC.

Call for meeting location
<u>Sunday</u>
Jan 6
Feb 3
Mar 3
Apr 7
May 5
TBC
TBC
TBC
TBC
TBC
TBC
TBC
TBC
Sundays 1000 - 1530 President Graham Tilly 9660 3071

MENAI REGION WOODTURNERS INC.

Menai High School Gerald Rd. Illawong
<u>Tuesday</u>
Jan
Feb 12
Mar 12
Apr 9
May 14
Jun 11
Jul 16
Aug 13
Sep 10
Oct 15
Nov 12
Dec 10
Tuesdays 1800 - 2100 President Graham Towle 9774 3198

NORTHERN BEACHES WOODTURNERS INC.

Narrabeen RSL Club Nareen Pde North Narrabeen		
Sunday	Tuesday Workshop	Friday Workshop
Jan	22, 29	25
Feb 17	5,12,19,26	1,8,15,22
Mar 17	5,12,19,26	1,8,15,22
Apr 21	2,9,16,23,30	5,12,19,26
May 19	7,14,21,28	3,10,17,24,31
Jun 23	4,11,18,25	7,14,21,28
Jul 21	2,9,16,23,30	5,12,19,26
Aug 18	6,13,20,27	2,9,16,23,30
Sep 22	3,10,17,24	6,13,20,27
Oct 20	1,8,15,22,29	4,11,18,25
Nov 17	5,12,19,26	1,8,15,22,29
Dec 22	3,10,17	6,13,20
Sundays 0900 - 1400 Workshops 0900 - 1200 President Jack Butler 9999 4290		

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS WOODIES INC.

Harbison Care Villiage cnr Moss Vale Rd.& Charlotte St. Burradoo
4th Saturday each month
4th Saturday meetings 0900-1600 All other Saturday 1230-1700 Every Tues.&Friday 0830 - 1230 Pls call for Tues/Fri to confirm meeting President John Powell 02 4871 2714

SOUTHERN REGION WOODTURNERS INC.

"Cubbyhouse" Como Road Oyster Bay (opp. Scylla Rd.)						
	Wednes. Mini Day	Wednes. Mini Nite	Work Shop Meeting	Saturday. Maxi Days	Thurs. Mini Day	Special Events
Jan	NIL	9	14	19	24	
Feb	6	13	11	16	21	C.H. 17th ANNIV.
Mar	6	13	11	16	21	TURNFEST 22,23,24
Apr	3	10	15	20	NIL	
May	1	8	13	18	23	OYSTER BAY SCHOOL FETE
Jun	5	12	11	15	20	
Jul	3	10	15	20	25	TWWWS 27,28,29
Aug	7	14	12	17	22	A.G.M
Sep	4	11	14	19	24	
Oct	2	9	14	19	24	
Nov	6	13	11	16	21	CRAFT SHOW 2, 3
Dec	4	11	16	21	NIL	XMAS LUNCH 21
Maxi days Saturday 0900 - 1500 cost \$6 Mini Days both 0900 - 1500 cost \$3 Mini nite 1800 - 2100 cost \$3 Toy/Friendship days 0900 - 1400 no cost President Keith Moses 9528 8885						

WESTERN SYDNEY WOODTURNERS INC.

Twin Gums retreat, Cnr Northcott Road & Dianne Drive Lalor Park						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan 20	7,14,21,28	8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	19
Feb 17	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	6,14,21,28	1,8,15,22	16
Mar 17	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22	16
Apr 21	8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24	4,11,18	5,12,19,26	20
May 19	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31	18
Jun 16	3,17,24	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	15
Jul 21	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	20
Aug 18	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	17
Sep 15	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	21
Oct 20	14,21,28	1,8,15,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	19
Nov 17	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	6,14,21	1,8,15,22	23
Dec 15	6,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18	5,12,19	6,13,20,27	21

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays: 0930 - 1530
Fridays: 1900 - 2100
President Ken Young 0408 760 131
Ladies days are held regularly organised by Anna Dawes 9638 6995

IN THE SHOP

WOODTURNING JACKETS \$40 POST \$5
 Bottle Green, short sleeved with Velcro neck closure. Keep the shavings where they belong

GUILD CAPS discounted to \$5.00 POST \$2.50
 Wear backwards - become a turner with attitude!

CLOTH BADGES AND ENAMEL BADGES \$5.00
 Order from: Treasurer, Greg Croker on
 9498 2350

Bankstown News Feb/Mar '13.

Attendance at our January meeting was higher than expected, but lower than usual because of the high temperatures, but the miserable weather in March saw our numbers down to about 18, the lowest for some time. We hope to see an increase at the next couple of meetings before the onset of the cooler days leading in to Autumn/Winter.

Royal Easter Show entries were lodged at the March meeting, with David kindly offering to take them into the showgrounds for our members for inclusion in the judging and then the show display. Six of our members submitted a piece for the show.

Over the years the number of show entries has slowly dropped off, with the possibility that the woodturning competition could disappear, and be absorbed into the general woodworking section. With an organisation as big as the Guild, it seems a shame that we cannot be the leading group in numbers of show entries each year.

Don't be shy about entering your favourite, best, most liked piece in next year's show, as the judges for that year may just be thinking along the same lines that you are, about your particular piece. Remember, if your wife tells you she likes a certain piece, it could well win a prize in the next show!

At our March meeting, Kevin and several other members demonstrated the use of a new bowl saver that David has purchased, and while I have enough wood to not worry about getting three bowls from one blank, it was a success all round, if not a little noisy. I take the view that it is both quieter and safer (for me) to have to clean up a bigger heap of shavings, rather than use the bowl saver.

Bankstown will be taking part in the Bankstown Community Fair this month, where we will sell and demonstrate our craft. The venue is the sportsfield just off Waldron Road, Chester Hill, opposite our hall.

Some of our members have been on the sick list of late. This is just to wish them all the best, get well as quickly as you are able, and we will be pleased to see you back at the Bankstown meetings as soon as possible.

Come and join us at Bankstown if you wish. \$5.00 for the day will get you free coffee or tea, use of a lathe as available, and plenty of time to meet and chat with our members. Come along and show us what you do, and don't forget to bring your lunch with you.

(Yes, first Saturday EVERY month, and also second Tuesday night, every month. See By Hand & Eye for times and contact numbers).







Cliff's Ship's wheel and clock



Antonio's turned box o/o European Oak



Terry's Small Ring post and dish



Mario's Pine Box



Mario's Dishes o/o Blackbut.

HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC. NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2013

Lindsay welcomed over 20 members for our first meeting of 2013 on bright and sunny morning.

The passing late last year of ex member Kevin Leverton was remembered.

John Markham advised us that Harry Jones had moved from hospital to a nursing home at Beecroft. Short visits will now be possible with the recommendation that two or three should visit together.

A short discussion on the SWG 30 year celebration resulted in 8 members planning to attend in September/October at \$20 per head, then sales of End Sealer at \$5 for 2 litres – still some left - see Elwyn, Traditional Tool Sale on Sunday 24/2 at Dartford Road Stadium from 9 am and Bottle Green jackets are becoming available again.

2013 Show & Tell commenced with a good range of items.

Ian Raper showed two pieces the first being a jacaranda high sided bowl with fret and poker work on the wall in the shape of a tree. Well designed and finished the bowl was named 'The Family Tree Bowl.' Also Ian had turned a large Sydney red gum wood platter with a wide textured rim and named 'The Sunflower Bowl' (see photo).



Greg showed a 5 inch diameter blackwood bowl with a bead at its greatest diameter, some good grain had developed following

numerous coatings of Danish Oil and finishing with EEE and Glow. Also shown were two 8 inch letter openers, (again from eucalyptus species), one of which had been stained to improve its image.

Simon showed a large jarrah platter embellished with a strip of silver ash and beadings



leading to the wide rim. A second entry was a blackwood burl bowl, which like his platter was well finished.

John Markham showed a large spalted jacaranda bowl and a very large silky oak platter both finished to fine shine with multi coats of Penetrol oil.

Ted turned a cute 'frangipani vase' from tulip satinwood (*Rhodosphaera rhodanthema*) with the usual striking grain patterns.

John Edwards made a small satin finished bowl from old juniper and a well designed 6 x 5 inch camphor tall bowl/vase showing interesting grain.

John Knight made a 'floating box,' a complex turning ex the Woodturner magazine design



from Japanese maple, Aust. cedar and jacaranda this is a good example of turning technique.

Bert had turned a medium sized spoon/scoop which no doubt will be snapped-up for the kitchen very soon.

Elwyn continued his theme of oval turning with three great 'boxes?' from camphor laurel, see photo.

Finally Tim had been busy fashioning three classic handles, two for chisels and the other a light-pull of English design.

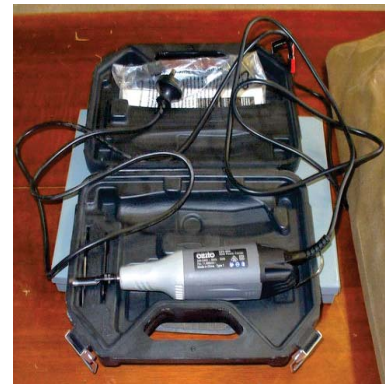


For today Lindsay ran a workshop on three topics.

Firstly a discussion on darkening high tannin woods with alkaline salts. Then a couple of examples. Darken with diluted alkaline compounds (sodium carbonate, dishwasher liquid etc) and lighten with acids (vinegar or very dilute mureatic acid 1:50 etc). Using acid solution mixed into fluoro acrylic paint sprinkled or painted on previously darkened wood can give spectacular effects; experiment on waste first!



Next was a rundown on a recently released Ozito power chisel from Bunnings at \$39. Supplied with three chisels of various sizes its reciprocating action worked well for preliminary work and at this price could be a useful tool.



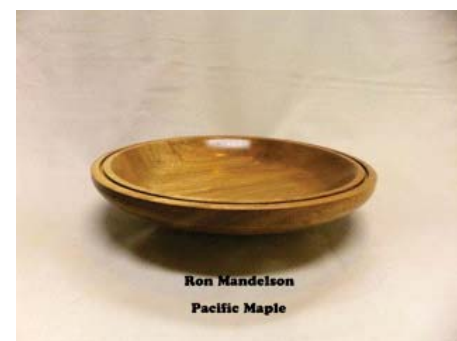
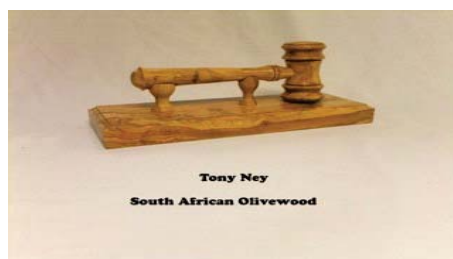
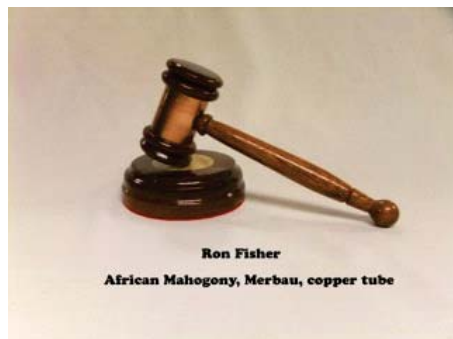
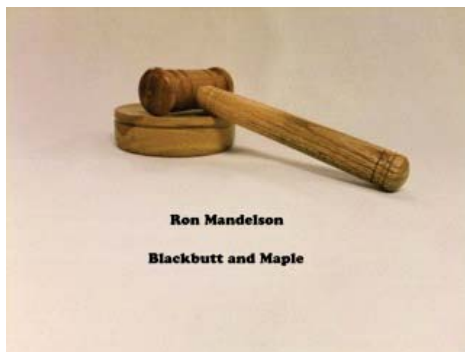
Lastly a demonstration on the basis of finial turning. Let's see how we all go turning a pair of matching finials for homework?

During the meeting the members were advised that we need to move premises in the not too distant future. A frank and open discussion followed, abbreviated information and details of which will be the topic of a separate email.

Till Saturday 9th March at Annangrove from 11 am.....keep turning.

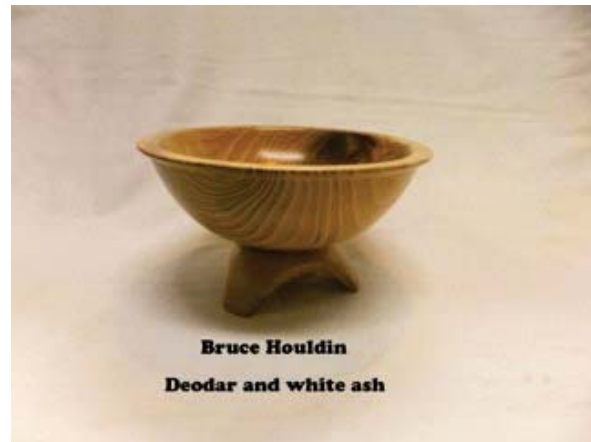
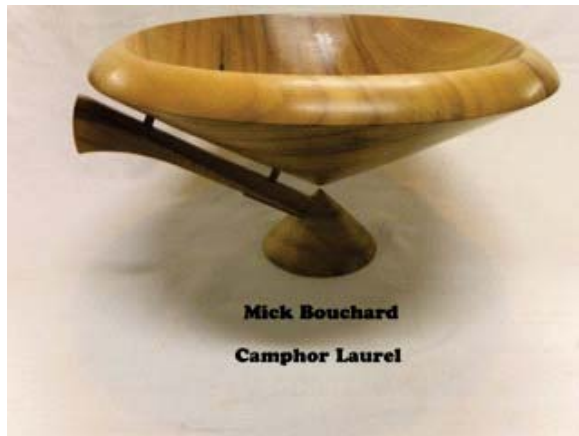
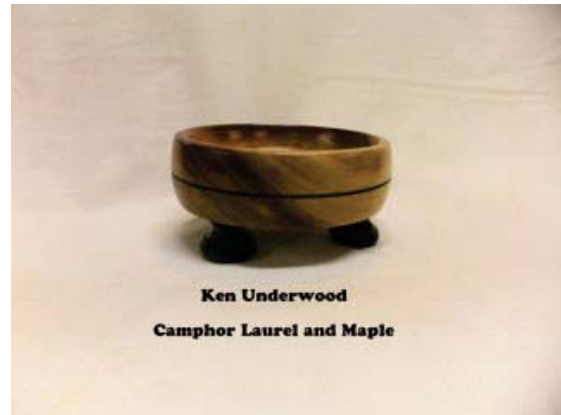
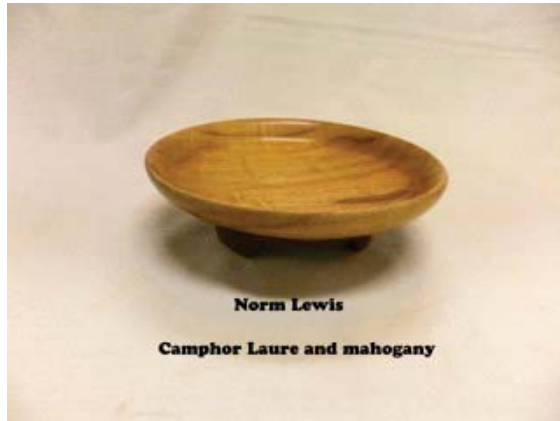
MENAI WOODTURNERS:

At our February meeting, the theme competition was "Auctioneer's Gavel". The entries are shown below:

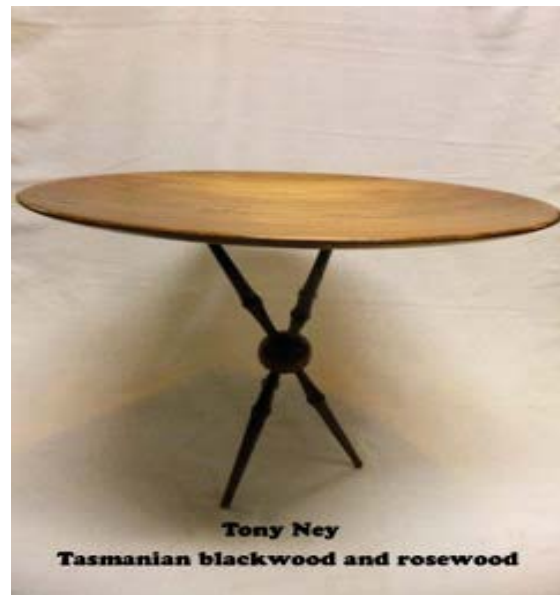
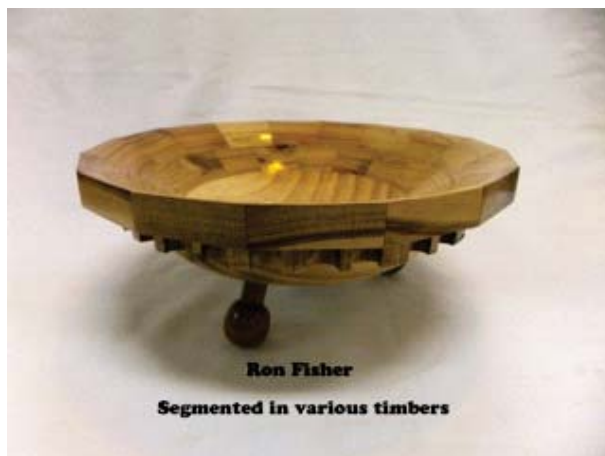


First prize went to Tony Ney

At our March meeting, the Theme Competition was "Footed Bowls" with the following entries:



First prize: Mick Bouchard



Cubby House News

March 2013

Page 7

Best Displayed



February Show and Tell

Segmented Table Lamps

Host: Warren Rankin

Well done to
Frank Pynenburg



The "Turners" Gallery



March Show and Tell

"Turned Item with Decorative Finish"

Host: John Field

SYDNEY WOODTURNERS GUILD INC.

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Keith Moses	02 9528 8885	Southern Region
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Bob Young	0408 760 131	Western Syd.

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All submissions will be gratefully accepted. Original photos will be returned but we prefer soft copies if available. Please submit articles in PDF, Word or text files.