

BY HAND AND EYE



The official newsletter of the Sydney Woodturners Guild Inc.

November 2011

Close off dates for articles for January
BH & E will be Friday 6th January 2012

Edited by Scott Rollo

HEADLINES

Lantern Christmas
Ornament

Christmas Bells &
Christmas Trees

How to make Urchin
Ornaments



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

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I hope everyone is well & enjoying life. I am. One month to Summer. Time is really flying.

Congratulations to those Regions & members who participated at the Royal Easter Show. Unfortunately I couldn't be there but, I have received reports that the Guild display was excellent. Well done everyone who was involved.

A few people have asked, why should their Region remain affiliated with the Guild.

There is a very simple answer. Apart from the By Hand & Eye & the insurance which the Guild organises for the Regions, there are events such as the Royal Easter Show & the Working With Wood Show which is organised by the Guild with help & participation by various Region members.

Perhaps the most important reason & one that is taken for granted by all of us is the communication link between Regions afforded by the Guild. If the Guild didn't exist & the Regions were all independent of each other I believe this communication would not exist. Mateship is very important & I believe the Guild is the conduit that makes this mateship between members from different Regions possible. If the Guild ceased to exist, Regions would, in time, become isolated and that would be a sad thing.

The Guild is only as good as its associate members & affiliated Regions and the Guild encourages ideas and suggestions from the Regions and it's members. If any suggestions put forward are viable and possible, the Guild will certainly "give it a go".

Enjoy your turning & I hope to see you "around the traps".

Warren.

Notes & Errata...& last minute mail...Scott Rollo

A huge thanks to all the contributors this month. It is the first By Hand & Eye where all I had to write was the editorial – e.g. I had enough articles and items to fill the issue!!! Woo Hoo!!! You dream that one day it will happen and then it does...what a happy day! Seriously, thanks to all..it make my job a lot easier...and it only took 17 issues....keep those stories and articles coming!!!

On behalf of the current (just) and soon to be new Guild committee, we wish everyone in the Sydney Woodturning Guild a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

As a paid up member of the Guild I would like to thank the outgoing committee for all of their hard work and dedication throughout this past year. Personally I would like to the committee for their support throughout the past year.

At this time of the year I am grateful for many things – but two I am especially thankful for are Ernie Newman and Ken Sullivan, my two regular contributors who do so every month. A honourable mention goes to Sam Shakouri who has submitted 3 or 4 articles this year – great work Sam. All this from a man who English is a second language – putting people to shame...time to rise to the challenge the rest of you!

Please note the Royal Easter Show competition details throughout this issue – let's see if we can get more than 8 people entering this year....seriously we need to support the woodturning portion of the contest or they will drop it. It's up to us to stop it happening.

By the time you read this we will have had the elections for the positions on the board for the Sydney Woodturning Guild and would you believe that there was a real coup d'état.

In a completely unexpected and surprising gesture, every position was made vacant and EVERY SINGLE POSITION was filled by new people keen to help and assist the guild showing passion and support for every club and every turner in each club.

Would you believe the outgoing committee was personally thanked by the new president and each member of the outgoing committee was given a one kilogram gold bar as thanks for their hard work and dedication.....a gold bar!!!.....would you believe it!!!.....Hard to believe?....Too much....

Well you won't want to hear the truth....And to be honest it's a pretty ugly story...

Writing this before the actual event it will go something like this....all positions will be declared vacant and open for business...more than likely most of the positions will be recycled...e.g. no one outside the existing sitting members on the committee are likely to put their hands up...and to me, that is a sad thing.

It should be that we have too many people applying for the roles and member should be joking that I'll do it this year and you can do it next year Harry! Instead we find ourselves in the position where we too often have to rely upon the sitting committee members to "go around one more time"...and it is well worth remembering for our incorporation to be legal there are several key positions that we need to have before we can be considered an legally formed committee and therefore incorporated...without these roles, which is president, vice president, secretary and treasurer – we would literally be sunk.

Last year if it wasn't for the sake of guild life member Warren Rankin stepping up and volunteering to do the President's role for a year, we would have been in serious trouble.

So here we are, a little shy of a year since Warren's generous act and it would appear that we are at the "same shit, different bucket" scenario that we faced last year.

A few clarifications – you must be one of the Guild's club delegates to be able to put your hand up to be on the committee, but it has always been just as hard to try and find the three delegates each Association is supposed to have. With 3 delegates and 9 Affiliated Associations we have in theory got 27 potential people to be able to step up and fill the hand full of committee roles. As a rule and with ***absolutely no insult intended***, it has been very hard to convert the guild reps into committee members. Literally past years committee's could be photocopied and maybe one name is changed from year to year...which I feel is a sad condemnation on our commitment to the guild.

So, where does that leave the Guild...well first things first. I am a strong believer in the Guild and all that it stands for – I think as long as we move with the times then it can remain relevant to the members. But don't let 5% of the people do 95% of the work – GET INVOLVED!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Having said that and in my humble opinion, it really needs to have an injection of energy and eagerness to the people applying to be on the guild representatives. It is from these Guild Reps that the future blood of the ongoing committees will flow. Surely there are people in the guild Associations who are keen to see the Guild go on to bigger and better things – or at least keen to see it keep going. For you see dear reader, if we don't invest in personnel in the form of Guild Reps, then we are literally doomed – sounds dramatic, but we need people to keep "coming through" to invigorate the committee. It's up to everyone in the Guild to encourage anyone keen to be involved.

For about 12 years now, I’ve been making a wooden Christmas Ornament each year. I prefer them small and fairly detailed, as they are my Christmas gifts to friends and relatives. This year I ran out of new ideas, until I began thinking about Father Christmas, Sinterklass, Pere Noel, Saint Nicholas, and of course, Santa Claus. I remembered the story that I had been told of an old man, wandering around the forests and small towns of Europe, looking for good children, and lighting his way with a lantern. This was well before Rudolph arrived and all that...

On a US website, I saw something called a “Forstner-bit Christmas Ornament”, but it was quite large. The picture sparked memories of the original carriage lanterns, which had a spike on the bottom, allowing it to be forced into uneven ground to help it stand by itself. So I’ve modified all these ideas to come up with the following.

Please note: this is not an “easy” or safe ornament to make. It requires a high degree of accuracy, even on the marking out, and drilling and cutting must be precise. I’ve pushed some of my own limits with this design, which resulted in a few bruises and scrapes as I discovered my mistakes. Please take care during the making...

Materials

Wood: Straight grained wood, with distinctive grain and colour if possible, 2.5 cm x 2.5 cm x 7 cm. Make the first few out of a relatively soft wood: it will be easier on the fingers, as you learn the “tricks”. I’ve used Huon Pine in the sample below. Hardwood takes a better shine, but can be more brittle, and is hard.

Drill bits: 1 mm, about 5 mm for pilot holes, and 1.25 cm.

Tools: Skew, parting/beading tool, spindle gouge, roughing or small bowl gouge, drill press.

Incidentals: Fine stainless steel wire, cotton thread.



1) Mark out the first drilling point 3.5 cm from the ends, and halfway across each face.

Note the jig. It should be used from both ends on each face, and the resulting marks “averaged” if they do not fall on the same point. The accurate positioning of these holes will go far in determining a “professional look” to the finished ornament.



2) Marked out and ready for the first drilling.

Drilling should be done from each face and meeting the opposite hole as exactly as possible. Likewise, the “cross” side holes should meet them at 90 degrees and have a common “floor” where all the holes meet.

Drilling straight through is possible, but I found it less accurate



3) Ready for second drilling.

The reason for drilling a pilot hole before the final hole is to increase accuracy and ensure that the final holes meet at 90 degrees. Larger drill bits tend to “wander” especially if they are not perfectly sharp. Two drillings helped improve accuracy, while three drillings didn’t make things much better.



4) First side of second drilling complete.

Note the thumb! Large drill bits tend to “grab” small pieces of wood, especially if you try to drill down too fast. The wooden block then spins at somewhere around 10 revolutions per second... “pushing” any soft object out of the way.

Enough said?



5) After drilling all four sides and ensuring that the holes “match”, mount the block. About 7 mm in the chuck should be sufficient. Again, ensure the block is absolutely centred on the lathe, otherwise the holes will not be balanced.

Rough down, but leave some “flat” to strengthen the bridge between the holes. Note: a gouge may “dip” into these bridges. A skew avoids this.



6) Pare down to a gracefully curved point, ensuring the top of the curve starts/ends about 2 mm from the holes. This will become the base of the lantern.

There should be enough thickness in the bridges to allow a small bowl gouge to be used for the paring. But a sharp spindle gouge will put less cross pressure on the bridges.



7) Form the base, using a skew (if you are brave.. and skilled) or a spindle gouge.



8) Complete the “spike” and mark out the top of the lantern.

Remove the “flats” from the sides of the lantern. I tend to give it a slight barrel shape, as this leaves the maximum amount of wood over the bridges.



9) Using a parting or beading tool, pare away waste wood, leaving a 5 to 7 mm spigot (the greater amount for softer woods).

As this is a very cramped working area, I could not use a spindle gouge to form the top of the lantern. Carefully use a skew or a very sharp and fine parting tool.



10) Complete the top “knob” of the lantern.

My first designs did not have a knob but I found a flat or only slightly curved top to the lantern to be visually uninteresting and unbalanced. On the other hand, the knob should not be so big that it detracts from the spike at the bottom.



11) With sandpaper rolled into a tube, gently sand the opening of the holes to remove any threads of wood. If you used a sharp drill bit, the interior of the holes should be relatively clean.

Then with two or three grades of sandpaper, sand the outside of the lantern. Provide support on the spike with your thumb while sanding.



12) Apply finish. A brush allows the finish to be applied inside the holes more easily. Again, support the spike with your thumb while polishing the entire lantern.

I tend to use a drying oil to preserve the wood, and then a liquid wax.

Repeated applications of the drying oil (e.g. Danish Oil) will also improve the shine.



13) Part off and drill a 1 mm hole in preparation for inserting a “hook” and hanging loop.

Put a drop of oil on the raw wood created from parting off.



14) The finished ornament.

I tend to make my own “hooks” with fine stainless steel wire (straightened paper clip wire will work, but make sure you use the ones that don’t rust!)

Enjoy! And be safe.

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OR BED

A husband is at home watching a football game when his wife interrupts, honey, could you fix the light in the hallway? it's been flickering for weeks now. He looks at her and says angrily, fix the lights now? Does it look like I have Energex written on my forehead? I don't think so... Fine,

Then the wife asks, well then, could you fix the fridge door? It won't close right to which he replied, fix the fridge door? Does it look like I have Westinghouse written on my forehead? I don't think so... Fine, she says....then you could at least fix the steps to the front door? they are about to break

I'm not a carpenter and I don't want to fix steps he says, does it look like I have bunnings written on my forehead? I don't think so! I've had enough of you! I'm going to the pub!!!!

So he goes to the pub and drinks for a couple of hours.....

He starts to feel guilty about how he treated his wife, and decides to go home

As he walks into the house he notices that the steps are already fixed. As he enters the house he sees the hall light is working and as he goes to get a beer, he notices the fridge door is fixed.

Honey, he asks, how'd all this get fixed? She said, well, when you left I sat outside and cried just then a nice young man asked me what was wrong, and I told him. He offered to do all the repairs, and all I had to do was either go to bed with him or bake a cake.....

He said, so what kind of cake did you bake?

She replied, hellooooo.....do you see [Sara Lee](#) written on my forehead?



I don't think so!!!!!!

A man and woman had been married for more than 60 years. They had shared everything. They had talked about everything. They had kept no secrets from each other except that the little old woman had a shoe box in the top of her cupboard that she had cautioned her husband never to open or ask her about.



For all of these years, he had never thought about the box, but one day the little old woman got very sick and the doctor said she would not recover.

In trying to sort out their affairs, the little old man took down the shoe box and took it to his wife's bedside.

She agreed that it was time that he should know what was in the box. When he opened it, he found two knitted dolls and a stack of money totaling \$95,000.

He asked her about the contents.

'When we were to be married,' she said, 'my grandmother told me the secret of a happy marriage was to never argue. She told me that if I ever got angry with you, I should just keep quiet and knit a doll.'

The little old man was so moved; he had to fight back tears. Only two precious dolls were in the box. She had only been angry with him twice in all those years of living and loving. He almost burst with happiness.

'Honey,' he said, 'that explains the dolls, but what about all of this money? Where did it come from?'

'Oh,' she said, 'that's the money I made from selling the dolls.'



A Prayer.....

Dear Lord, I pray for Wisdom to understand my man;
Love to forgive him; And Patience for his moods;
Because Lord, if I pray for Strength, I'll beat him to death,
Because I don't have time to knit!

On woodturningonline.com, about a year ago, I found Dennis Burgess. An excellent segmenting turner from UK who had his own site to show the world his projects with full details how to do each of them.

I liked all of his work in particular the Inserted Segments Bowl. Because it is new idea, I invite you to see it on his site under My Projects. <http://www.denswoodturning.co.uk/> .

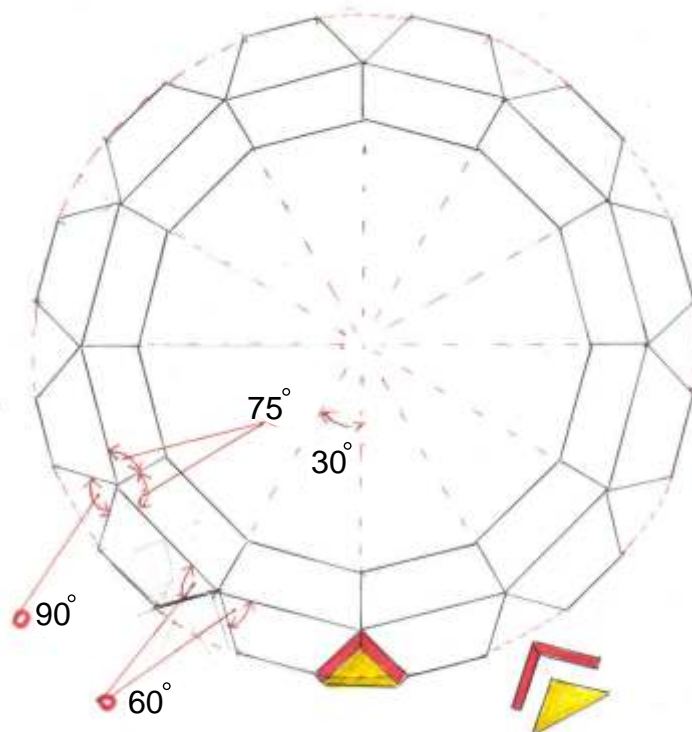
I liked it so much that I decided to do it by myself. And I wanted to do it my way. He had cut the main part of the bowl out of one solid blank by using the router to cut those 90 degree 12 angles by a special jig he had built himself.

I segmented that part as shown in my plan. Here, I am not saying that my way is better than his, but because I don't have that jig which he can use again and again for any size he wants. If I wanted to make another one I would have to start all over again. The second difference is I turned a vase not a bowl.

I am really satisfied with the result.

I used rose wood for the main body and Padauk and Osage Orange for the FLAME.

Do Not ask me about the smoke, it is my own way in photography art!! But, it is real smoke!!!



As wood turners we use glue and newcomers always ask what's the best glue to use. Well that's hard to say. There is so many excellent glues available now. I feel that there is different glues for different jobs.

Listed below is the is the glues that we normally use that we can go and buy of the shelf and do the job.

PVA White Glue This is the most common type of wood glue that can be bought anywhere. It is a good general purpose type glue for wood. It is water based so it's easy to clean up . I don't like it for wood turning .There is much better available. It creeps , its not good at gap filing unless you add sawdust, its not waterproof, and it softens with heat and falls apart. This could be dangerous when finish sanding a laminated bowl or segmented work. One of our guys left a segmented bowl that had been glued with PVA in the back of his car on a hot day in the sun and it fell apart, much to his dismay.

Crosslinking PVA glue (Aquadhere Exterior Grade Plus Other Brand names)

Now this is a different story. Its water based so easy clean up , doesn't creep very much. Weather proof and heat resistant. This is what we are buying in bulk for our club. We have tested this glue extensively, we have made joints and smashed them apart with a hammer . The joint stays intact and the wood around it smashes and we have never had a laminated bowl or similar come apart in a lathe yet. So we feel that this is a great glue at the right price.

Yellow Glue (Titebond 11) This is another crosslinking PVA

We used this extensively for a long time and is arguably the best all purpose glue available. It's the same as previously described and I can't see any difference. The only reason we are not using it is price.

Yellow Glue-(Titebond Regular and Titebond 111) This is a Aliphatic Resin Emulsion Adhesive

Again these are great glues with the same characteristics as previous . Tite bond 111 is waterproof and can be used on some parts of boats . I have used them all and can't say which is the best. They are all excellent.

Two Part Epoxies (Araldite , The West System, Techniglu ect)

These are arguably the ultimate in wood glues they bond almost anything to anything plus they are gap filling, waterproof very strong and weather proof . They were designed for boat building and aircraft use. So if you have a difficult job and you don't know what to use these are the answer. The only problem is they are a bit messy with a bit of waste and very expensive

SuperGlues These are a real gift to us woodturners. They will bond just about anything to anything quickly. They are the only glue for cracks and splits They have this characteristic of being drawn into the joint. This is called capillary attraction They are excellent for pen making plus they are now used as a beautiful finish on Pens probably the best I have ever seen. We buy them in bottles in bulk and sell them in our shop but I have used the El Chepo from the Two dollar shop and I don't see any difference. So Viva La Super Glues.

Polyurethane Glues (Aquedhere, Vise , Gorilla, and other trade names)

These are the latest and again they bond just about anything to anything. Gap filling , strong, waterproof , weatherproof and convenient to use. They are a bit messy as they foam out of the joint and the clean up is a minor problem They make a mess of you hands so wear gloves. I have used them with success but the main problem is once you open the bottle and leave it, the glue hardens in the bottle. So they are expensive to buy and he wastage rate is high so I haven't bothered to buy any more.

Well I hope this has been of interest and some help



Following Lindsay's presentation on glue chucking, Ted Utick took over the stage, and the lathe, and showed how he makes his Christmas Bells and Christmas Trees. Ted showed 23 Christmas Bells, each one of which is made of a different species of timber, plus a display of 6 Christmas Bells turned from West Australian Banksia nuts on a display stand. As well as creating his collection, Ted makes them as quick and easy Christmas give-aways.

Ted makes 2 styles of Christmas Bell – one with the clapper and the bell turned in one piece, and one with the bell deeply hollowed and a toy bell attached inside the wooden bell to form the clapper.

Ted's Christmas Bells can be any size you like, and the outside shape is also reasonably flexible, provided that it is recognisable as a bell. They can also be finished with your preferred turning finish, or left unfinished if you wish.

The blank is initially held between centres to turn it to a cylinder and create a spigot on the headstock end. After that, unless the blank is quite long, it is usually sufficient to hold it in a scroll chuck without the tailstock.



Ted uses his bowl gouge and detail gouge to shape the outside, and his parting tool and small detail gouge to hollow out the inside. After it is parted off, the top of the knob needs to be finished off on a faceplate sander.



Ted's other Christmas oriented item is Christmas Trees, which can also be made any size you like and from almost any timber. They can be coloured and decorated, or left in plain timber and polished. They can be made to stand on a table top or shelf, or to be hung from your home Christmas tree or picture rail.

Ted's Christmas Trees are turned from a blank held in the scroll chuck, but he recommends still having the tailstock in place to support the tree when you start shaping the tub and the trunk.

Ted's Christmas Trees are turned from a blank held in the scroll chuck, but he recommends still having the tailstock in place to support the tree when you start shaping the tub and the trunk.

Turn your blank to a taper towards the tailstock end, which represents the overall shape of a traditional Christmas Pine Tree. Make sure you leave enough scrap on the tailstock end to be able to turn the tree right down to a point. Use your skew to cut into the conical shape at regular intervals to create the layers of branches. The more you undercut into the conical shape the more realistic it will look.

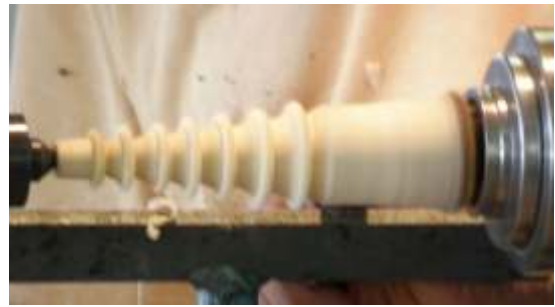




Shape the tub in which the tree sits, and give it some decoration such as burning a couple of rings into it with your hot wire.

Use your parting tool to cut in under the lowest branch to form the section of trunk between the tub and the foliage. Sand, then wax if you wish, or leave it plain if you propose to colour it.

Turn the point of the tree as fine as you can without cutting right through, then part off below the tub. Clean up the top and base as required.



As a variation, the tree shown at right with a cross on the top is made by turning the extended trunk out the top of the tree, then turning a disk and cutting away the disk on both sides of the trunk to form the cross.

Ted's final idea for the day was the Christmas Tree with feathered edges to the foliage, which Ted has been experimenting with. In this version the tree is turned to a cone as described above, then the short point of the skew is used to slightly turn up a series of small layers of wood with ragged edges, to look like pine foliage. Ted believes that wet wood may be more effective for this, but is still experimenting.

How to make Urchin ornaments - Dave Kratzer



Rotation Description

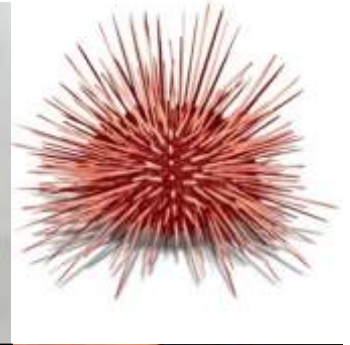
Easy to make and easy to sell gift items. In this demonstration Dave will show how to make a beautiful ornament from a sea urchin shell. He will cover the material sources, selection and preparation of the shell as well as tools and technique in turning the finials, coloring, making and installing the hanging eye, and display stand. If time allows he will also talk about and demonstrate small bird house ornaments and seam rippers.



How to Make a Sea Urchin Ornament and Stand

None of the following information is original with me. I have gleaned it from various books and demos. Two books by Dick Sing cover much of what I am sharing in great detail. *Miniature Birdhouses* (ISBN: 0-7643-2080-7) and *Ornaments & Eggs* (ISBN: 0-7643-1463-7).

Sea urchins are a spiny sea creature. When they die they leave a shell that comes in a wide variety of sizes, colors and textures. Some are thin and fragile and others are thicker and stronger.



Shells can be purchased at craft stores but I've found better prices on the web from dealers specializing in sea shells. Here are two of the many sea shell vendors found on the web.









<http://www.seashellworld.com/sea-urchins.html>
<http://www.usshell.com/search.aspx?find=urchin>

To add strength to the shells I fill them with expanding insulation foam. Use the minimal expansion foam if possible. First tape over the smaller hole then squirt foam into the larger hole. Direct a small amount of foam around the perimeter inside the shell. Only partially fill the shell. Usually less than half full. The foam expands slowly and way more than you expect! Try a test first outside the shell to get an idea of how fast and how much the foam expands. If you overfill the shell with foam it will be difficult to remove from the outside of the shell. Acetone will work if you use it before the foam completely cures. After the foam cures remove the tape and excess foam by pulling, cutting or scraping. Under filling is better and saves a lot of work, sticky fingers and spoiled shells. Don't ask me how I know this.

More elegant ornaments can be made if the finial base fits nicely flush with the shell but most shells have irregular holes and lumps around the hole. To handle this I use a trick I saw Ashley Harwood use, which is to ream the holes perfectly round using a tapered grind stone. This allows you to make the finial exactly fit the hole and blend into the shell rather than sit on top of the lumps or irregular hole. Use a fine grit stone as the shells are fragile. With a stone in a cordless drill insert the stone into the hole and gently grind into the shell until you have a perfectly round hole. Some of the larger shells have holes that exceed the maximum diameter of the stone. With these I've had some success with an electrician's step drill. This is a bit tricky as these drills tend to grab and can easily break the shell but with patience it can be done. Turning step drill by hand gives more control but takes longer. These tools are available from Harbor Freight and other tool vendors.

The larger hole usually looks better as the bottom of the ornament but you can experiment. There are no rules. The finials are best made with a dense hardwood especially if you are going for long and slim with fine details. Hard Maple, Cherry, Walnut, Ebony, Osage, Bubinga, etc. are all good.

I usually start with a 1" x 1" x 8" piece of wood. Obviously smaller shells and shorter finials will require smaller stock. Mark the center on both ends. Chuck the stock, centering with tailstock live center. I usually only chuck about 1/4" of the end. If you chuck more you will have to drill the 1/8" holes deeper and use a longer piece of material to start.

Foam filled irregular hole	
Stone	
Step Drill	
Round-ing hole	
Nice round hole	
Stock	
Round and drill one end	
Round and drill other end	

How to Make a Sea Urchin Ornament and Stand

Round down to maximum diameter and drill a 1/8" hole in tailstock end about 1" deep. Reverse in chuck, finish rounding and drill 1/8 hole about 3/4" deep in other end. Hole depth is not critical. Just dont cut into it in later operations.

Part off about 2" of the tailstock end. Put this piece aside for later. It will become the top finial. Bring up the live center to remaining piece to support during roughing. This will be the lower finial. Measure large hole in shell. Set calipers to slightly larger than measured diameter. Round down this piece to the caliper setting and roughly taper piece from tailstock to 1/2" from chuck. Make a shallow taper from the max diameter – from chuck toward chuck. This will fit into the tapered hole in the shell. Remove tailstock support and turn finial to desired shape starting at tailstock end and using fingers to support while turning.

Resist the temptation to leave the tailstock in place while turning finial. The small amount of pressure from the live center will bow the finial and when the tailstock is finally removed it will not be straight and will whip around. This makes it look odd and hard to sand and finish. OK, do ask me how I know this.

Start the finial at the tailstock end and progress in increments leaving as much mass at the headstock end as possible for support. Totally finish turn the tip detail before moving to the next section. Turn the thin stem incrementally and continue adding details toward the headstock. When you are happy with the finial sand and finish as desired. I will sometimes use dyes to complement the color of the shell or set off the finial. I then seal the wood with Deft or other friction finish. The finished ornament will be given a coat of lacquer.

Part off the finial as close to chuck as possible using thin parting tool. Hopefully there is some of the 1/8 hole still in the finial. Repeat the process with the saved piece of stock to make the top finial fit the taper to the smaller hole in the shell. Before parting off the smaller finial drill a 1/32 diameter hole in it from the top into the 1/8 hole already in the bottom. This small hole will be used for the hanging loop, either a purchased screw eye or home made one like I use.

I make my hanging loops from 24ga brass craft wire. Cut a length about 3/4 inch and twist around an 1/8 allen wrench or ice pick. These loops are easy, cheap and more delicate than screw eyes.

Install screw eye or insert a homemade hanging loop in the small hole in top finial. Hold top finial upside down and put a drop of CA glue in the large hole and let it run down into the small hole. When you see the glue at the top of the finial insert loop in the finial. Be careful not to glue your fingers to the finial. Yes you know how I know this.

Insert a length of 1/8 dowel into the bottom finial with a drop of CA glue. Insert this dowel through the shell and seat the bottom finial. You may need to adjust the hole size with the stone to get

Part off 2 inch piece



Rough shape



Begin detailing



Work in stages toward chuck



Fine tuning taper



Finished turning



Dyed and sealed



Part off



Fit to shell



Repeat process for top finial



Drilling for hanger loop



Twist loop around 1/8 hex wrench



Finished loops



How to Make a Sea Urchin Ornament and Stand

the look you want. Mark the dowel just below the top of the shell. Cut the dowel to this mark. Install the top finial on the dowel. Adjust dowel length if necessary and try again. When fit is right add a drop of CA to 1/8 hole in the top finial and assemble for last time.

Spray entire ornament including shell with a coat of lacquer. Ornament is done. Now lets make the display stand!

Select a piece of 3/4 stock 2 -1/2 to 3 -1/2 square for the base of your stand. Mark the center and mount this to a flat scrap block using double sided tape and the live center to apply pressure for a good bond. Round up the blank to the desired diameter. Remove the live center and create a 1/8 recess in the face sized to fit the expanding jaws of your chuck. This will be the bottom of the base. Taper the raised rim toward the center slightly so it will set firmly. Sand and finish the bottom. I use Deft or friction finish.

Remount the base on the expansion chuck. Shape the top as desired. Drill a 1/16 hole in the center about 1/2 deep. Sand and finish. The base is done.

I use a piece of 1/16 brazing rod purchased at a welding supply store. Polish the rod with fine emery paper. Bend the hanger to the desired shape using needle nose pliers and your fingers. Fingers work best for the smooth curve. If you use larger rod, 3/32 or 1/8 you will probably have to bend the curve around a form. I like the 1/16 rod because it is easy to work with and flexes a little which adds some motion and interest to the ornament. Insert the end of the bent rod into the base just completed. Spray the base and rod with lacquer. If you dont spray the brazing rod it will tarnish over time. Hang the ornament you are done. Make a bunch more for gifts or to sell. The possibilities are endless by changing the shell, wood species, color, finial shapes and display stand. Have fun.

You may notice that the finished ornament pictured to the right doesnt have the original detail at the bottom of the finial. Thats what happens when you drop a fragile piece. Its called a design opportunity. I made the top to match and it looks like thats what I intended all along.



Dave Kratzer
Turner, photographer, editor
No rights reserved, 2011
dave@kratzerkraft.com
www.kratzerkraft.com

Glue loop in finial



Mark dowel for cutting



Finials and dowel ready to install



Double faced carpet tape chuck



Base blank mounted



Bottom of base finished



Drilling hole for hanging rod



Friction finish sealer on base



Finished ornament



Stands can be used for small bird houses too.

Wax has been used for centuries for polishing wood. As woodturners we can use wax as one of our many finishes.

I will describe and comment on the types of wax that we can easily obtain and normally use. Waxes are not a durable type of finish. They show watermarks, finger marks, scuff easily and collect dirt. But they can be easily fixed by just giving them another polish. The more you polish them the better they look and they develop a nice patina. It's better if you seal timber with shellac or similar before applying wax.

Beeswax This is probably the most common wax available. It's not a very hard wax and has a low melting point, consequently it never really sets hard and soaks into the wood, shows finger marks and is not a durable finish. By adding 10% to 20% Canubra this hardens it up. I don't use beeswax very much. Only as an additive to smooth out other waxes

Paraffin Wax or Candle Wax This has been around for hundreds of years and has many uses. It's not much good on wood on its own. Used as a mixer with Bees wax or Canubra Wax it improves them. It's a medium hard wax with a medium melting point.

Canubra Wax This is a vegetable base wax and is the hardest and best of all the waxes. It's not recommended to use this on its own but by blending 10% to 20% with beeswax plus others is very good.

Microcrystalline Wax (Micro Wax) This is the finest grained of all the waxes and comes in a lot of grades. In its purest form it's known as Petroleum Jelly or Vaseline. It is mostly available in solid block form which is what I use. By adding a small amount of bees wax or Canubra it makes it better to use. This is commonly sold by the name of Renaissance Wax and has a lot of uses. This can be mixed with any of the other waxes.

I suppose your main question is how do we convert these hard waxes into a paste form for applying to timber. The answer is simple we melt them in a container and add a liquid solvent. I use gum turpentine which is the best by far. I use an electric saucepan. Just break up the wax into small pieces and place in the pan. Only use a low heat until you just melt the wax. With the wax in a molten state, add the Turps then pour it into a container to cool down. If you have made any sort of a mixture it's a good idea to stir it occasionally. Sometimes the waxes tend to separate when cooling down. To make a workable consistency I use around 1 Litre of Turps to 400 gram of wax. The wax we sell up at our club is a mix of all the above with the addition of a fine cutting compound called Rottenstone or Tripoli Powder.

What's the recipe for the perfect mix, well I don't know. I have seen hundreds in books or on the internet and they all claim they work. There is an Australian book called "A Polishers Handbook" Written by Neil Ellis, the proprietor of "U Beaut Polishes" This is as good if not better than anything I have seen from overseas and has some excellent recipes. Well I hope this has been interesting.



1. Wood has been used to replace what part of the human body?
2. In March 2012 Australia's largest ever woodturning symposium will take place. It will feature 24 overseas demonstrators and another 16 from Australia, In which state will it be held? Clue: The symposium is called TurnFest and has been held in that state each year since 2003.
3. Multi centre spindle turners often shun the traditional cone centre. What is the commonly preferred alternative?
4. Some woodturners use the underhand grip. What is it?
5. In the 14th century Chinese wooden ships were almost 5 times as long as the longest European ships. True or false?

A Country Woodturner - Ken Sullivan

I had a "Gap Year" between my Bachelor and Masters Degrees. It wasn't by choice.

Since I was 12, I'd always been able to find a job every summer or after school. This time all the interviews and applications just came to a dead end. As I was no longer getting room and board at the college and my parents were rather "firm" about not supporting me beyond my first Degree, I spent the year living hand-to-mouth, doing whatever odd jobs I could find.

As an aside, let me tell you that it wasn't a good year for adolescent pride and an implicit belief in my own invulnerability: I earned an average of \$15 per week over the course of that year, so when the rent was due, there were a number of three day periods of not having anything to eat. I still find that I have a hard time throwing out food, even as little as the residual grains of rice in the strainer. It's silly, I know, as I could well afford to loose another 20 kilos that I lost back then. But I don't recommend the method.

Anyway, one of those odd jobs was chopping wood. It so happened that on my street, about 20 trees on the edge of the road had died the year before. The Council generously chopped them down and cut them to length, with the understanding that anyone could use the wood in their fireplaces. They only had to split and remove it from the street... within a two-week period.

Well, this was tailor made for an unemployed and fairly healthy young man. I arranged with about a half dozen of the residents that I would split the wood and stack it on their property. I would get a meal or two and \$10 for the one to two days work at each place (fortunately, they were not really big trees!). It was while I was doing this that I had my Eureka Moment.

The story goes that Archimedes had been given the task of proving whether a craftsman had cheated the king when making a crown of gold. The crown weighed the same as the gold that the king had provided, but no one could figure out the volume and hence the density of the crown without melting it down and destroying it. So they couldn't prove whether he had used all the gold... Archimedes, as he slipped into his bath, realized that his body had displaced an equal volume of water, which could be measured separately. He was so excited that he sprang from his bath and ran naked to the king, shouting "Eureka!" which means, "I have found it!" (As a sidebar, the craftsman was executed... I guess it wasn't healthy to mess with a king... at least, not back then. Are you listening, Mr Murdoch?).

Quite a number of Mathematicians and Scientists have reported a similar Eureka Moment when they have had an “intuitive leap” to a basic Theory or fact of nature. All that is required after the brilliant flash and utter conviction of truth is to find a way to prove it.

My own Eureka Moment was the discovery that the volume of the trunk that I was splitting was exactly equal to the volume of branches I was stacking, and was also equal to the volume of twigs and kindling that I was sweeping up. If I could prove this Theory of Equivalence of Tree Parts, it would be the basis of a Masters Thesis, and if I could make the Theory General (prove that it applies to more than one species of tree), this would be a Doctorial Thesis. After all, it's well known that the roots of a tree are equal to the tree above ground. So why not the parts as well?

So I began measuring the length and diameter of each piece of wood. At night, I would then calculate the volume based on these measurements and was well on the way to proving my Thesis. The numbers certainly seemed to fit.

Have you figured out the flaw, yet?

Let me ask two simple questions: “On a tree, where does a twig end and the branch begin?” and, “How far into the trunk does the branch go?”

The words “twig”, “branch”, and “trunk” are actually relative words. They describe their rough placement on the tree, not their size or volume except in relation to each other. So I had been proving what I wanted to prove. A tree can be cut into any number of equal portions. That doesn't make one of them a trunk, another branches, and another twigs. It's just that it sometimes looks that way.

I never did write a Masters Thesis. My graduate degree was a dual degree in Mathematics and Education and that coursework did not require a Thesis. But with a Teachers Certificate, I knew I could get a job.

And what happened after that is another story.

Ernie Newman's Woodturners Quiz - The Answers

1. Wooden legs are well known, especially to aficionados of old fashioned pirate movies, but wood has also been used to replace teeth. George Washington had wooden teeth. Another substance that originates from trees, the liquid inside young coconuts, can be used as a substitute for blood plasma. Unfortunately almost all woodworkers find unwanted wood inside them occasionally in the form of splinters. Splinters can usually be removed more easily than the wood dust most of us inhale.

2. In March 2012, Australia's largest ever woodturning symposium will be held in Queensland. Over 500 people have already registered to watch many of the world's best demonstrators including Vaughn Richmond, Neil Scobie and Terry Martin from Australia, Jean-Francois Escoulen from France, Andi Wolfe and Bonnie Klein from the USA, Graeme Priddle from NZ, Eli Avisera from Israel and Hans Weissflog from Germany. For more information visit TurnFest.com.au. It should be a cracker.

3. Multi centre spindle turners often shun the traditional cone centre in favour of the ring or cup centre because these centres can be used close to the edge of wood stock without splitting it. For the same reason these centres are better for holding slender spindles such as drumsticks.

4. When using the underhand grip a right handed turner will place the forefinger on their left hand under the toolrest while the thumb sits on the toolrest and also touches the tool. The remaining fingers are wrapped around the tool opposite the thumb. The underhand grip is popular, particularly in Australia and Germany, for turning mouldings and fine detail on spindle work with detail gouges and skew chisels. It is also used when turning detail on faceplate work with a detail gouge. Those who use this technique claim that it gives them greater tool control. In my opinion it does give the turner an advantage though it almost completely unknown in most countries.

5. True. In the 14th century Chinese wooden ships were up to 150 metres long, almost 5 times as long as the longest European ships.



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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 – sells at Southern maxi days & his own shop

<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://anagote.com/> great site for wood

<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://ornamentalturning.net/articles/more_woodturning_magazine.html one stop shop for ornamental turners

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

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

<http://www.woodturningvideosplus.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://yoyospin.com> great site for tutorials and how to videos with focus on craft items

GUILD MEETINGS

Guides Hall, Waldron Rd Chester Hill			
Month	Committee	Bi-Monthly	Time & Cost
January	31	—	—
March	28	Macarthur 27th	TBA
May	30	Western 15th	TBA
July	25	Sthn Highlands	TBA
September	26	Nth Beach 18th	TBA
November AGM	28	Bankstown 5th	TBA
All guild meetings 18:30 till finish President Bill Black 9541 2405			

HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC.

1 Shoplands Rd. Annangrove	
<u>Saturday</u>	
Feb 12	
Mar 12	
Apr 9	
May 14	
Jun 11	
Jul 9	
Aug 13	
Sep 10 AGM	
Oct 8	
Nov 12	
Dec 9 Xmas Tea	
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 TBC	Jan TBC
Feb TBC	Feb TBC
Mar TBC	Mar TBC
Apr 2	Apr 12
May 7	May 10
Jun 3	Jun 14
Jul 4	Jul 12
Aug 6	Aug 9
Sep 3	Sep 13
Oct 1	Oct 11
Nov 5	Nov 8
Dec 3	Dec 13
Saturdays 0800 - 1600 Tuesdays 1800 - 2100 President Kevin Santwyck 9644 8366	

MACARTHUR WOODTURNERS INC.

Robert Townson High School Shuttleworth Ave Raby(maxi only)	
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>
Jan 30	
Feb 27	
Mar 27	
Apr none	
May 1 & 29	
Jun 26	
Jul 31	
Aug 28	
Sep 25	
Oct 30	
Nov 27	
Dec 3 Xmas party	
Sunday Maxi 0945 - 1500 cost \$5 President Paul Kruss 9823 8340	

EASTERN REGION WOODTURNERS INC.

Unit 16, 14 Anderson St. Banksmeadow	
<u>Sunday</u>	
Jan 16	
Feb 6	
Mar 6	
Apr 3	
May 1	
Jun 5	
Jul 3	
Aug 7	
Sep 11	
Oct 9	
Nov 6	
Dec 4	
Sundays 1000 - 1530 President Graham Tilly 9660 3071	

MENAI REGION WOODTURNERS INC.

Menai High School Gerald Rd. Illawong
Tuesday
Jan
Feb 8
Mar N/A
Apr 19
May 10
Jun 14
Jul 19
Aug 16
Sep 13
Oct 11
Nov 15
Dec 6
Tuesdays 1800 - 2100 President Bruce Houldin 9542 1087

NORTHERN BEACHES WOODTURNERS INC.

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

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS WOODIES INC.

Harbison Care Villiage cnr Moss Vale Rd.& Charlotte St. Burradoc	
Saturday	Friday
Jan 11,18, 25	Jan 14, 21 28
Feb 1,8,15,22	Feb 4,11,18,25
Mar 1,8,15,22,29	Mar 4,11,18,25
Apr 5,12,19,26	Apr 1,8,15,22,29
May 3,10,17,24,31	May 6,13,20,27
Jun 7,14,21,28	Jun 3,10,17,24
Jul 5,12,19,26	Jul 1,8,15,22,29
Aug 2,9,16,23,30	Aug 5,12,19,26
Sep 6,13,20,27	Sep 2,9,16,23,30
Oct 4,11,18,25	Oct 7,14,21,28
Nov 1,8,15,22,29	Nov 4,11,18,25
Dec TBC	Dec TBC
Saturdays 1000 - 1630 Wednesday/Friday 0830 - 1230 Pls call for Wed/Fri to confirm meeting President Roger Wilson 02 4862 3175	

SOUTHERN REGION WOODTURNERS INC.

"Cubbyhouse" Como Road Oyster Bay (opp. Scylla Rd.)							
	Wednes. Mini Day	Wednes. Mini Nite	Work Shop Meetng	Saturday Maxi Days	Thurs. Mini Day	Tue/Wed toy/f'ship Day	Special Events
Jan	5	12	10	15	20	25 only	
Feb	2	9	14	19**	24	22-23	Bi-Monthly @ Southern **
Mar	2	9	14	19	24	22-23	
Apr	6	13	11	16	21	27only	
May	4	11	16	21	26	24-25	Oyster Bay Skool Fete
Jun	1	8	14 Tuesday	25** 4th Sat.	23	28-29	17,18,19 WWWS
Jul	6	13	11	16	21	26-27	
Aug	3	10	15	20AGM	25	23-24	A.G.M Craft Show 27-28
Sep	7	14	12	17	22	27-28	
Oct	5	12	10	15	20	25-26	
Nov	2	9	14	19	24	22-23	Xmas party Nov. 27th
Dec	7	14	12	17	-	-	
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
Jan	10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28
Feb 20	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22	2,9,16,23	3,10,17,24	4,11,18,25
Mar 20	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25
Apr 17	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29
May 15	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27
Jun 19	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24
Jul 17	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,15,22,29
Aug 21	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26
Sep 18	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30
Oct 16	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28
Nov 20	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24	4,11,18,25
Dec 18	5,12,19	6,13,20	7,14,21	1,8,15,22	2,9,16,23

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays: 0930 - 1530
Fridays: 1900 - 2100
President Eddie Catford 9837 3311
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!

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 Order from: Treasurer, Greg Croker on
 9498 2350

At our October Saturday meeting, (first Saturday every month, 9.00am) 30 members were present, and after an impromptu meeting of the new committee and others present, it was decided to auction off our Comet lathe, and purchase another new Woodfast midi lathe. This was carried unanimously, and a silent auction will be held to dispose of the Comet, bids to be in by our December Saturday meeting.

In spite of repeating this news, office bearers for Bankstown for the year 2011-2012 are once again President Kevin Santwyk, Vice President Alf Lord, Secretary Doug Midgley, Treasurer Ken O'Donnell, Guild Representative Hasso Constantin, Committee Members Bert Sims, Hasso Constantin and David King.

Our junior members classes on the Friday night before our Saturday meetings, are going well, and the four boys who are attending them, also attended our November Saturday meeting, so we hope they continue on this new learning curve they have set themselves.

Show and Tell is still being supported well, and it is good to see new members putting their pieces on display. Our Show and Tell is not limited to new pieces made recently, and this means that if long term members wish to bring along pieces they have made some considerable time ago, a "new generation" of members will see work across a much greater spectrum, than if we show recent pieces only.

We are still getting new members along on Saturdays, and two "visitors" became "new members" at their first visit, at the November meeting, so welcome Ken and son, Cameron. We hope you get as much out of our meetings as we do. Show and tell should not be viewed as a competition, but as a chance to talk (either in private or in public) about the piece, its difficulties, its design, its finish, etc, and also to ask for advice from others if that is what you want to do. Everyone can learn something from someone else, no matter how long they have been turning. Our Saturday meetings are enjoyable, and friendly, and you will see a lot of happy (and maybe some familiar) faces.

Members of all groups affiliated with the Sydney Woodturners Guild Inc., can enjoy the facilities in the same way as they do at their own meetings, and yes, please feel free to bring along your lunch, your tools, something to turn, and maybe a piece for Show and Tell, jump on a lathe, and show us what you do.

All the above, with all the tea and coffee you can drink, for \$5.00 for the day!!! We think it is a real bargain, and where else can you get all that for little more than the price of one cup of coffee?!!!





To: Scott Rollo

From: Bill Kelly Eastern Region. Sydney Wood turners Guild

Date: 02/11/ 2011

Committee Members for year 2012

Dear Scott,

At our October Meeting the following members were duly elected to form our committee for year 2012.

President and Convenor: Graham Tilly

Treasurer: Gerry Brady Jnr.

Secretary: Bart Galea

Public Officer: Phil McLeod

Regional Representative: Phil McLeod

Voting Representatives to the Guild B. Galea, G. Brady, P. McLeod



HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2011 (Greg Croker)

Twenty six members and one guest were welcomed by Convener Lindsay Skinner to our September meeting, and advised that member Ian Raper will demonstrate today.

After some enjoyable banter we received apologies from Bert Gude and Colin Hunter, were advised about Trend Timber's Open Days, including its turning competitions and prizes (Fri/Sat 18/19 November) and the invite to the Hawkesbury Woodcraft Co-operative Limited's opening of its new premises at 15 Woodlands Rd Wilberforce on Saturday 29/10/2011 at 11 am. Then the new TV stand was unveiled, and a magnificent one at that, thanks very much to Elwyn Muller and his helpers. (I forgot to get a photo for the record but I can advise that already a video camera has been purchased so that with the addition of a few cables we can go into business and show and record all our activities)!

This meeting was also our AGM and Spring Raffle, the latter was run at 3 pm netting \$165! The members were also courteously reminded that we need three persons to assist setting-up for each meeting and a similar number to assist at the end of the meeting. Please let's do this with volunteers?

Details from the recent SWG Committee meeting are:

\$500 to be donated to the Ipswich Woodturners if their flood insurance claim is rejected.

\$10 per member who renewed by 31/7/2011 will be returned to the Districts by 1/12/2011.

The Guild's AGM is on Monday 28th November at Villawood at 6:30pm, all members welcome.

At 12 noon our AGM began, full details of which are recorded in the minutes; the committee and office bearers were all re-elected in their roles for the coming year. We had about \$1,200 in the bank at the end of June after allowing for membership fees to the SWG.

After the traditional BBQ lunch Show & Tell commenced.



First was Ian Raper's large 14" cyprus platter with a tile at the centre. A good example of the style and finished well.

John Markam showed a large blackbutt (eucalyptus species) straight sided bowl with accentuated graining and similar features in need of advice regarding its finish. The recommendation was not to use oil as this may cause drying problems on this type of wood rather use 50:50 lacquer and thinners.

Harry Jones also had a largish bowl showing an oil problem of stickiness. The finish showed the grain and a patch of sapwood to advantage. To overcome the oil stickiness the bowl will be carefully wet sanded, using turps, to remove the 'sticky oil' on the surface, then dried and finished with 50:50 lacquer.

Ted Utick presented a white beech split turned winged bowl made recently. Ted also presented a segmented bowl well finished and made from jarrah, rosewood, coachwood, red mahogany and mountain ash.

John Knight showed a similar bowl to Ted but from jacaranda and embellished using a toothed scraper made from a section of power hack-saw blade.

Martin Nielsen showed 3 boxes made from camphor laurel, the first hexagonal sided and with a large finial, the others smaller, one with grooving on the side done by router and the third more orthodox with rounded sides. An interesting trio.

Elwyn had made a largish oval turned silky oak bowl showing some good grain features as well as turning expertise. John Edwards made two small items from off-cuts of gordonia; an egg cup and a small lidded box which just goes to show that big is not always essential.



Simon Begg turned some small examples also viz, a yo-yo from zebra wood and owl and a bear all for use as toys.



John Talbot showed a 10 drawer cabinet made by bandsaw only. While looking good on the outside John advised that the 'professional velvet' finish on the inside of the drawers was achieved using acrylic glue to hold the fabric fluff and make the lining.

Russ Pinch showed an array of recently made pens from various woods; John Edwards had one to show also, made from East African Olive wood won in the last \$1 raffle.

Ian Raper then commenced his demonstration with a number of useful tips and by showing a small motor speed regulator obtainable via SKR on the internet, and then a range of deep hollowing tools he had made from steels easily available, see photo. Discussion continued regarding their construction, materials and prices.



On the lathe Ian commenced with a 100 x 100 mm block of pacific maple cut down the centre and glued for split turning. Turning with the ruffing gouge a cigar shaped form was made and sanded to about 320 grit, split open using a large chisel revealing two boat hulls.

Added to one hull was a keel, (a router slot in the two opposing sides can be made to facilitate the fixing of the keel) and a cabin both made from suitably shaped scrap wood to form a sailing boat, to which was fixed a dowel mast, the

rigging/sails, and even a tiller. Port holes in the cabin can be added using brass studs. After painting the unit looked most appealing and very suitable as a gift for boys.

Without the sails a tug boat can be made using the second hull formed from the split turning.



Ian showed other toys he had made including a 'universal' skipping rope, trains using off set turning to produce the oval tank and the rapid turning of their wheels. Apparently we now have to be careful of which dowelling used as masts and axles as some imported product is made from unsuitable softer woods and is non-utilitarian; in fact dangerous for kids. There was then a bit of 'undercover' turning, but I'm not going to tell you about that.

Finally a review and discussion of pen turning ensued. Do not over tighten the mandrel as this can bend it and makes turning of good pens impossible. Some members preferred 'cigar' pens about 13 mm in diameter suitable for larger Parker style refills. Other members discussed their preference for acrylic over wood and the use of EEE polish compared with Brasso as the final rub.

Some acrylics, particularly white and the lighter colours, can be translucent and allow the dark colour of the brass to affect their (external) appearance. Care needs to be taken if overcoming this problem by painting the inside of the acrylic in case the epoxy won't then stick.



The day ended with a round of applause for a memorable and well executed presentation. Thanks Ian.



For homework it was agreed that we should all make a boat or a toy for Show & Tell. These toys will be judged for excellence by Lindsay and Ian.

Following the judging Ian has offered to



present the best item's maker with a nice blank of red cedar as a prize. He also asked that we donate these toys for sale or gifting as is usual for the toys made by the members of the Hornsby Men's Shed.

I hope you will all do this, and good turning till Saturday 11th November from 11 am.

Macarthur Report November 2011

Well what another busy 2 months with nearly every weekend doing some, somewhere, for the Region. 4 Bunnings BBQs, a demonstration at Mater Die Special School and also 2 regular meetings. If this keeps up I'll be asking for a pay rise (Ha! Ha!).

No, it's be great to see members involved outside of the meetings where they can help, discuss and also have a go, whether that's helping with the BBQ, demonstrating or just being there for support. Next year we are planning to cut down on the amount of Bunnings BBQs we do and only concentrate on the Campbelltown and Cross Roads stores. We figure if we have about 8 BBQs a year this will keep "our head above water" so to speak in the financial stakes.

Congratulations to Brett Selley, a very new member who only purchased his fist lathe in June, who was recently awarded 1st Prize in the Fishers Ghost Festival Woodturning Competition – Well done

By the time this edition gets out we'll have had our Christmas party and only have 2 planned functions more in 2011.

They are a demonstration at Narellan Library on 3rd December and a BBQ at Bunnings, Cross Roads on 18th December and if we don't see you at either of these functions please have a happy holiday period and a safe and prosperous new year.

Planned functions for 2012

Thursday 26th January – What else do you do on **AUSTRALIA DAY** but have a BBQ? Well we've planned one but it will be at Bunnings, Cross Roads instead of at home. Also on this day we will be demonstrating at Camden, at the showground so we are expecting quite a few of our members to help out at either venue.

Sunday 29th January is our first meeting for the year at the Robert Townson High School, Raby from 9:30am

Sunday 26th February sees us again at our regular meeting at the Robert Townson High School, Raby from 9:30am

Saturday 10th March sees us demonstrating at the Miller PCYC Community Festival, Cartwright Ave. Miller from 8:30am.

As always

Keep Turning



At Menai's October meeting the Theme was "Trembleurs". The winner was Les Jaffrey who submitted a 1.2 metre long trembleur. The attached photos show the development of the Trembleur with the required "steadies". Les Jaffrey's entry was the culmination of a year of high level work which resulted in him winning Menai's Theme Competition for 2011. Congratulations Les



Les Jaffrey
Large bowl in Yew and Sycamore



John Aston
2 Walking sticks



Mick Bouchard
Silky Oak and Mahogany



Ken Underwood
Blackwood and scrap plywood



Les Jaffrey
Mixtures in Plantation Mahogany, Rock Maple, Javanah and Ficus



Bob Thompson
White Oak and Blackwood Bangle



Ken Manderson
Maple and paper towel holder in various timbers



Ken Manderson
Tea light holders



Mike Beardon



Ken Fisher
Cedar and Maple wavy edged bowl + Multicoloured resin bowl



Bruce Beattie
Magical Vase

Show & Tell

Theme: Your Latest & Greatest



Ken Cooper: Ken displays a lidded box with dovetail joins by his nephew Ben, who came 8th in the World Skills competition in London



Gary Cox: Two lidded boxes in Camphor Laurel



John Bellamy: Yellow Box Burl bowl finished in EEE

June McKimmie: Red Mallee burl with Amonite Inlay.





Paul Johnson-Walker: Camphor Laurel salad bowl with small bowl in same wood using a bowl-saver.

Aaron Ehrlich:

Diorama in miniature.

Left: Woodturner in workshop with shavings and rotary tool stand.

Right: Woodturner with lathe, electronic variable speed, swivel headstock, 1.5hp, fuel injected, double overhead cam. Sharpening tools with grinder, (no safety guard, already reported to OH&S by Ken Cooper)
Includes fan for dust reduction and self made display cabinet with finial as background!



Paul Cosgrave: Natural edge bowl in Camphor Laurel. Finished in sealer and satin laquer.

Thanks to one of our members (who wished to remain anonymous) for submitting the following. It was after his hip operation but prior to the anaesthetic wearing off. Whoops!

The author states, 'If you can read this you have a strong mind'. Certainly, you will have had something strong.

7H15 M3554G3 53RV35 7O PR0V3 H0W 0UR M1ND5 C4N D0
4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5! 1MPR3551V3 7H1NG5! 1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG
17 WA5 H4RD BU7 N0W, 0N 7H15 LIN3 Y0UR M1ND 1S
R34D1NG 17 4U70M471C4LLY W17H 0U7 3V3N 7H1NK1NG
4B0U7 17, B3 PROUD! 0NLY C3R741N P30PL3 C4N R3AD 7H15.

7H4NK5 GR4H4M3

Show & Tell - August Meeting August project was a 2-timber handle



Col Hayman: Maple & Cedar



Bob Miller: (left) Cypress & Kauri (right) unknown & Celery Top Pine



Roger Wilson: Huon & Walnut



Graeme Webb: Bowl - Oak & handle - Oak & Aust Hardwood



Fred Robjent: Blackbean



Les Bell: Bowl - Huon & Cup - Unknown



Graeme Webb: Box, Macrocarpa



Keith McCutcheon: (left) Bowl, Blackwood (right) Bowl, River Redgum



Show & Tell - August Meeting cont



Keith McCutcheon: Bowl, River Redgum



Reese Bunker: (left) Bowl, Huon (right) Bowl, Blackwood



Peter Jackson: Handles - (l) Walnut & Radiata (r) Walnut & Beefwood



Terry Duffy: Inside/out Vase, Old Maple



Terry Duffy: l to r: Vase, Syrian Cedar Inside/out Vase, Unknown



Vase, Oregon & Maple



Graeme Webb: Dish, Camphor



Terry Duffy: l-Handle, Syrian & Elm r-Handle, Huon & Red Cedar



Terry Duffy: Handle, Mahogany

Show and Tell - Open Turning



Well at last we have our dust extract system finished and running. I must say that it has exceeded all our expectations. We were concerned about noise annoying our next door neighbours . There is no problem, you can hardly hear anything and the noise inside the workshop is acceptable. We have an exhaust hood type inlet on each of our 22 lathes and the suction is like a big king size vacuum cleaner.

We now have no problem with dust in the atmosphere in the workshop at all. To suit this system we have rearranged all our lathes into 2 rows, back to back with a wall in between . We have now fitted a continuous bench down both sides to mount the lathes and this gives more room and storage space plus it looks a lot neater.

We are now open 4 days a week and Friday nights with a Maxi day on Sunday once a month. We have had some really good demonstrators and the whole overall results are good.

Our large container out the back is 95% finished and all our woodworking machines are out there. We are at present installing an dust extract system for these .

We have adopted an open door policy for any sort of woodworking. That is we have facilities for General Woodworking, Intarsia, Segmenting, Pen Making, Cabinetmaking and Pyrography. These facilities are not being used to their full capacity yet but we feel that they will gradually take on. We recently opened up our shop and we are selling most of the consumables that we need with the accent on Penmaking. We are expanding our stock all the time.

We recently purchased some large variable speed lathes and these are quite an asset.

Our current membership is around 150 and growing. Our charity bowls project keeps going and we have raised a substantial amount of money for Charity. We have recently elected a new committee and they are doing a god job.

We do a lot of demonstrating and we recently attended the Newcastle Wood Show for four days . Sometime back we made a large chess set for one of the local schools and we built a Lecturn for one of the others.

We are bringing in teenage school children from the local schools and putting them through a Teaching/Mentoring program for a school term and the results for both the kids and the mentors has been great. We are still running classes for beginners and more advanced students plus sharpening classes and Taming of the Skew.

We have hosted a couple of one day visits from other clubs. One from The Mountains Club and one from the Central Coast and we all enjoyed ourselves.

We are continually expanding and altering our club. We have a lot of guys with good ideas plus enough willing people to put them into practice.

Well that's about all I have to say . Everybody is welcome to come and visit us at any time and we look forward to seeing you.

SYDNEY WOODTURNERS GUILD INC.

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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.