

BY HAND AND EYE

The official newsletter of the Sydney Woodturners Guild Inc.

September 2010 Close off dates for articles for Nov Edited by Scott Rollo
BH & E will be Friday 12th Nov. 2010

HEADLINES

Hmmmm...Donuts...no I mean
Sam Shakouri's wooden ones!

Training the Trainers

Spotlight on award winning
Turner Ken Vodden

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

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In visiting different Affiliated Associations (i.e. regions), I have noted that the quality of the work being shown seems to be improving steadily. I believe that amongst the reasons for that, is that most Associations now have established training programs that train the beginners properly and encourage them to show what they have made and to learn from more experienced turners.

I also believe that the Associations are actively encouraging their members to bring along items as per their meeting's "theme" and also in some Associations to be judged to pick out the best items. Whilst most of our members are not very interested in submitting entries into the various shows, they are willing to show their work within their own Association and this is helping people develop their skills.

Our Guild membership is steady, following the renewal of memberships recently and there seems to be a steady stream of new members replacing those who leave. Most Associations are demonstrating at fairs etc and quite a few are also making themselves known through their presence at Bunnings BBQs. Having people know who we are through exposure like this, is one of the best ways of keeping our membership alive.

If you have any ideas, suggestions, questions or complaints for the Guild, don't forget that the best way of telling the Committee is through your Association's Guild Representative.

Safe Turning.

Editorial Comment - Scott Rollo

Isn't it great that we appear to be coming out of the winter cold and into the warmer days. I don't know about you but I find the workshop a cold place to be during the colder months.

Now I know that some people have their workshops set up incredibly well with heating and air-conditioning and all of the mod-cons a man could want but mine is not so fortunate in the climate control stakes...in fact most of this winter I have barely set foot in my shed...for two reasons. Number one I have a young family and it is near impossible to get time either during the week or on the weekend to turn too much, but it is the lesser of my reasons.

I find it incredibly hard to spend too much time in the shed in the winter due to the climate. The winter we have just endured was the coldest Sydney winter in 13 years. Lordy - it made me homesick for the cold Melbourne winters....I know other turners who have similar issues so guess I am not the only one who suffers from circulation and joint problems.

I get sore back, legs and aching feet and sore ankles and I stand on a wooden “trivet” to isolate me from the cold concrete! Now I know that there are things you can do and some of you probably have heaters in the shed, be it electric, gas or maybe a solid fuel heater. I know that there is a good argument for having a wood burner in the workshop – heaven knows there is an AMPLE supply of fuel in the workshop, be it wooden offcuts or simply failed projects that can NEVER see the light of day...But...I don't think flames and wood/sawdust are comfortable bed partners...I once had a small to scary fire given off by grinding sparks that ignited sawdust/fluff. So a fire with open flames just makes me think of house insurance and does the house insurance cover self caused shed fires....but it does give me pause...what are the real risks of turning in a cold workshop, especially from those getting on in years.

1. Discomfort from cold stiff hands and feet, runny nose and shivering.
2. Reduced manual skills, dexterity, coordination and accuracy with impact on productivity and patient safety (from procedural accidents).
3. Increased risk of musculoskeletal injuries from stiffness of muscles and joints and reduced peripheral circulation.
4. Increased risk of accidents from reduced alertness, manual dexterity and coordination, e.g. increased risk of needlestick injuries.
5. Aggravation of medical conditions such as asthma and arthritis,

Now I know that there are ways to keep warm, but bulky clothes and jackets are not conducive to freedom of movement when turning. So there is the traditional electric “blow” heater, but they are not great in an open space like a shed. My first thought was of an old M*A*S*H episode where Frank Burns wore battery powered heated socks....and I wondered where I might buy some...I think one of the better ideas is to let mother nature do all the work by installing laserlight or similar roofing to let some heat in. It has an added benefit of letting in more light which has got to be a good thing. High powered lights do generate a lot of heat but they do cost you a fair bit of \$\$\$\$. A few strategically placed spotlights can really make a difference.

Whatever you end up doing to keep yourself warm the next cold snap good luck to you – and hopefully we won't have to worry till next winter!

A few housekeeping duties – thanks to the members who contributed to this months BH & E. It makes a massive difference when a lot of the BH & E is done by the members – for the members.

A public apology – last issue there was an entry at the TWWWS I called the lantern holder and announced it was made by John Smith – in fact it was made by Les Jaffrey at Menai! Sorry Les! John Smith is my working pseudonym until I get the correct spelling of a person name & it got through!!!! D'OH!!!

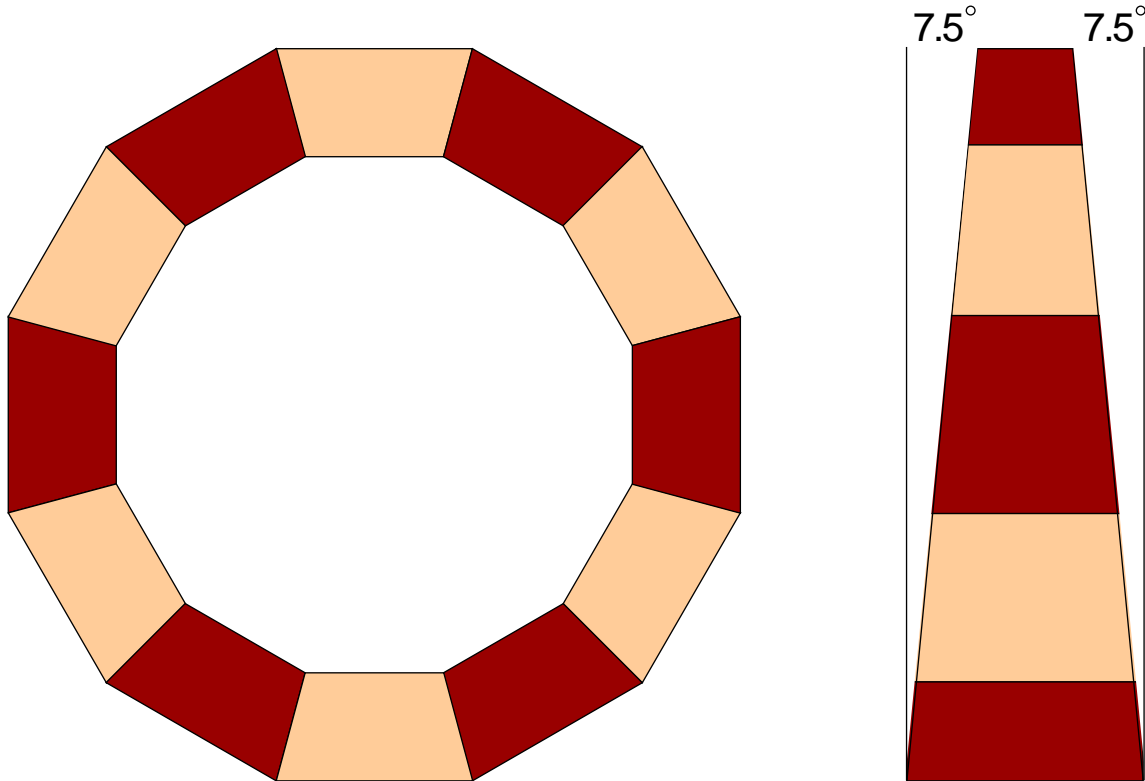
I have been asked by many turners to give some details about how I put the Twisted Doughnut together. I am more than happy to share with you all just how to do this.

Before you start, you have to be sure you have enough patience to see you through to the end of the project, because you are not going to see any result before, at least, a week or two.

OK, let me talk about, specifically, my doughnut. It is 300mm diameter, the round tube is 100mm diameter, so the central hole is 100mm diameter as well.

The tube is made of 24 small rings, each ring is made of 12 segments.

Firstly, I cut 144 segments of Walnut and 144 of Rock Maple, two woods giving good contrasts in colour. This means that I ended up with 24 small rings each containing 12 pieces.



Each rings face has to be cut down to 15 degree (7.5 degree on each side) to make the big tube ring. (15 degrees X 24 segments = 360 degrees...or one donut...)

NOTE: If you build a long tube and cut it into 24 small rings at 15 degrees, you will manage to glue them next to each other with no offset, you make it into a doughnut and save a lot of timber but the two colours will sit on themselves and it will be striped doughnut, not twisted. The choice is yours.

I had to work individually on each ring and cut it 15 degrees, 7.5 degrees from each side AFTER twisting it 5 degrees of the previous ring position, so each colour would sit off on two thirds of the next segment of the same colour.



For that reason, I had to number the rings 1 to 24 and glued them in the same order when they were ready. Otherwise the twisted lines would be broken in many places.

Gluing those 24 rings was another difficult process because they were running toward their heavy sides uncontrollably. I glued every six rings and then glued the four quarters together.

At last the rough cut doughnut was ready to go to the lathe.

I had no chuck of any kind to hold that unusual shape and size, so I had to build a special chuck. I enlarged my 140mm diameter metal face chuck to 340mm diameter by attaching it to a disc of plywood surrounded by a flexible fence and squeezed the doughnut in it by using 20 huge rubber bands.

That homemade chuck exposed only one quarter of the doughnut tube to the chisel. So I had to turn it around to turn the other inner quarter. The inner half of the tube was turned, but the outer half was not.

For that I had to build another special chuck to hold it on the lathe from the already turned centre, as showing in the picture. The last part, I had to repeat all of these four procedures twice over, one for sanding and one for polishing.

I'm sorry for those who intend to turn their own doughnut, they probably, just by reading this article, will give up before they start!!! After all, it is just a challenge you have to accept it and if you like it, have a go at making one! I enjoyed every minute of this project.

Sam Shakouri.



Most of the Affiliated Associations in the Guild currently have training programs in place for beginners, and some even have programs for more advanced woodturning subjects. To assist the Associations in their training, the Guild has recently hosted a Train the Trainer program.

The purpose of the training was not to teach people how to turn wood or to tell the trainers what to teach the trainees. The purpose was to help the trainers in becoming better teachers so that they can pass on the knowledge even more effectively.

The trainer for the program was Bob (Santa) Hodge from Western Sydney Woodturners Inc. Bob is well qualified to conduct this training being a fully qualified teacher with a long history in teaching technical subjects in TAFE. He also has completed the Woodturning Trade Course at Lidcombe under John Ewart. He currently is the main trainer at Western Sydney Woodturners Inc.



The course was held over 2 full days on the 4th and 11th of July and 10 people from various Affiliated Associations successfully completed the course. Some of the topics covered included building effective relationships with the students, tips on how to keep the students interested and learning the whole lesson, the use of teaching aids, building a lesson plan and structuring of the lesson. One tool that Bob used to demonstrate effective presentation methods was to videotape each of the participants (thank to Ken McEwen of Southern) presenting a 3 minute explanation of a woodturning topic. No warning was given to prepare, so this made it very interesting for everyone, but the standard of presentations improved noticeably over the 2 days as everyone picked up on how to give a good presentation.



Everyone who attended commented on how good the course was and how it will help them in training others. A big thank you was earned by Bob who kept the participants fully involved (i.e. awake!) all the way through the course. This demonstrated that what he was saying actually works! Thanks also to Warren Rankin for organising the course and to Southern Region Woodturners Inc. for lending the Cubbyhouse for the 2 days. Further courses such as this may be run if there are enough people who are interested.



The successful participants were:

Bart Galea	Eastern
Bill Black	Southern
Bill Papalexou	Eastern
Doug Midgley	Bankstown
Frank Barsanti	Macarthur
Gerry Brady Snr	Eastern
John Overton	Macarthur
Ken Phillips	Southern
Michael Twemlow	Macarthur
Steve McGrady	Macarthur

1-Ø I asked God for a bike, but I know God doesn't work that way. So I stole a bike and asked for forgiveness.

2-Ø Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.

3-Ø I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather. Not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.

4-Ø Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.

5-Ø Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

6-Ø If I agreed with you we'd both be wrong.

7-Ø We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.

8-Ø War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

9-Ø Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

10-Ø The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

11-Ø Evening news is where they begin with 'Good evening', and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

12-Ø To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.

13-Ø How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?

14-Ø Some people are like Slinkies ... not really good for anything, but you can't help smiling when you see one tumble down the stairs.

15-Ø Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.

16-Ø I thought I wanted a career, turns out I just wanted pay checks.

17-Ø A bank is a place that will lend you money, if you can prove that you don't need it.

18-Ø Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says "If an emergency, notify:" I put "DOCTOR".

19-Ø I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.

20-Ø Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?

21-Ø Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.

22-Ø Why do Americans choose from just two people to run for president and 50 for Miss America ?

23-Ø Behind every successful man is his woman. Behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman.

24-Ø A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

25-Ø You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

26-Ø The voices in my head may not be real, but they have some good ideas!

27-Ø Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back.

28-Ø A diplomat is someone who can tell you to go to hell in such a way that you will look forward to the trip.

29-Ø Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.

30-Ø Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.

31-Ø I discovered I scream the same way whether I'm about to be devoured by a great white shark or if a piece of seaweed touches my foot.

32-Ø Some cause happiness wherever they go. Others whenever they go.

33-Ø There's a fine line between cuddling and holding someone down so they can't get away.

34-Ø I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not sure.

35-Ø I always take life with a grain of salt, plus a slice of lemon, and a shot of tequila.

36-Ø When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the Fire Department usually uses water.

37-Ø You're never too old to learn something stupid.

38-Ø To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever **it is** you hit the target.

39-Ø Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.

40-Ø Some people hear voices. Some see invisible people. Others have no imagination whatsoever.

41-Ø A bus is a vehicle that runs twice as fast when you are after it as when you are in it.

42-Ø If you are supposed to learn from your mistakes, why do some people have more than one child?

43-Ø Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

At the recent Sydney Working With Wood Show at the Moore Park Entertainment Quarter one of the Western Sydney Wood Turners club members Ken Vodden was successful in winning both first and third place in the wood turning category.

Ken through his efforts has also won third prize at the Sydney Royal Easter Show this year with the presentation of a segmented vases. While Ken does other work he feels there are more challenges in segmented work as it requires close tolerances, a lot of planning, studying designs and plenty of patience in preparation which means he has several pieces on the go at the same time.

Ken is very meticulous on the quality of finish in preparation for morotone 3606 which he has used over the years and gives him the completed finish he looks for. Ken supplies several galleries where you can see his work on display along with other pieces from masters in wood working.

Ken has brought his experiences from many years in cabinet making, then decided to turn his hand to woodturning, where after only two years of turning and one year with the club he has impressed and inspired many others to join him in his tried and proven methods of segmenting and finishing.

Ken has many plans and drawings of his own and is quite happy to share them with any one so as to encourage other members to join him in a competitive way to keep improving their methods comparing notes and learning in a friendly manner making the competition more challenging. He has also devoted a lot of his time in many projects and assisting in the running of the club and hopes one day to take a more active role in its operation.





As a follow up of the article above, I am pleased to be able to advise our club member Ken Vodden has put in another "AWARD WINNING EFFORT"

Last week end Ken travelled to the Working with Wood Show in Canberra where he made his presence felt again by taking out first prize with one of the three segmented items he entered. This is a credit to Ken for the dedication and attention to detail he puts into his work. For those who are unaware this is the third consecutive show that Ken has entered and won major prizes a sterling effort and on behalf of the club "congratulations well done"

As Ken is passionate about his work and experiences he enjoys challenges. The rewards of these challenges come by being competitive and to this end he has indicated his willingness to offer advice and assistance to those with similar interests.

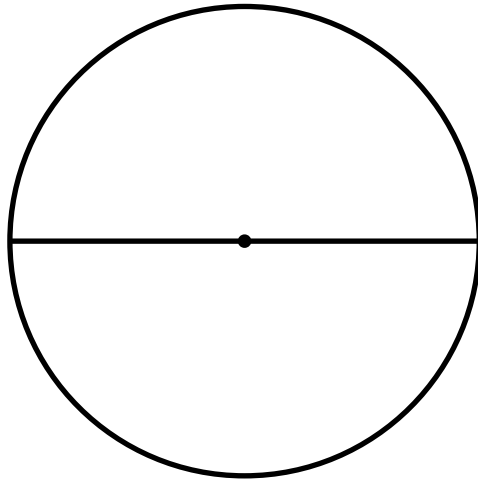
I am sure Ken would be only too happy to discuss any questions you have at any time or even if you feel I am able to help please don't hesitate to contact either of us.

Again thank you in anticipation.....

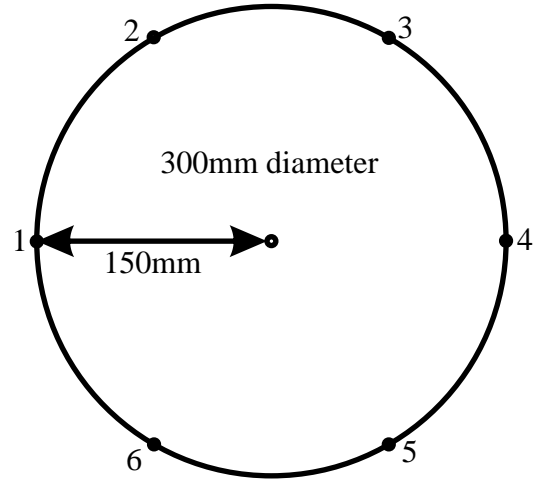
Eddie.

Using your compass/divider:

To divide by 2 spaces
just draw a line through
the centre.



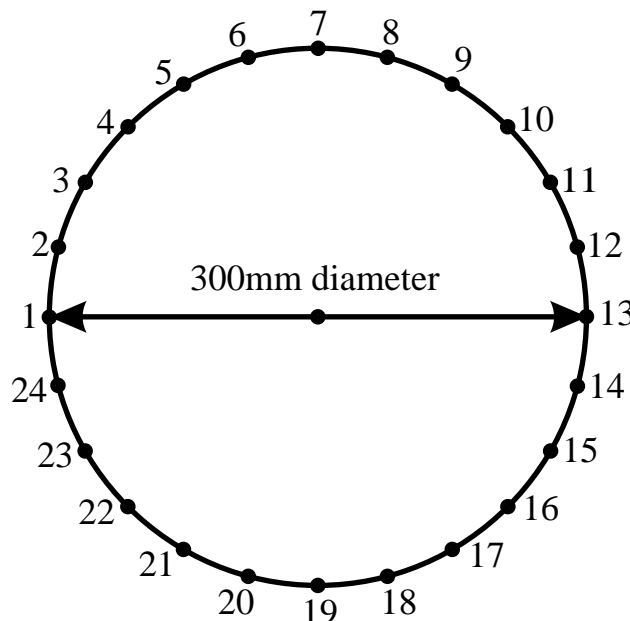
Six is also easy because we
just leave the compass setting
the same as for the circle and
step around



Beyond the to examples above the geometry gets harder but theres an easier way where someone has done all of the hard work and put all the information in the following tables (see page 13)

For Example: Divide a 300 mm diameter circle into 24 spaces
See Table: 24 spaces = 0.130526 Chord Length
Calculation: $300 \text{ (dia. of job)} \times 0.130526 = 39.1578\text{mm}$

Set divider to
39.15mm and
step around the
circle to make
24 spacings!



MATHEMATICAL TABLES

Lengths of chords for spacing off the circumference of circles with a diameter equal to one for circles of other diameters multiply length given in table by diameter of circle

No. of Spaces	Length of Chord	No. of Spaces	Length of Chord	No. of Spaces	Length of Chord	No. of Spaces	Length of Chord
3	0.866025	51	0.061560	99	0.031727	147	0.021369
4	0.707106	52	0.060378	100	0.031410	148	0.021225
5	0.587785	53	0.059240	101	0.031099	149	0.021082
6	0.5	54	0.058144	102	0.030795	150	0.020942
7	0.433883	55	0.057088	103	0.030496	151	0.020803
8	0.382683	56	0.056070	104	0.030202	152	0.020666
9	0.34202	57	0.055087	105	0.029915	153	0.020531
10	0.309017	58	0.054138	106	0.029633	154	0.020398
11	0.281732	59	0.053222	107	0.029356	155	0.020266
12	0.258819	60	0.052336	108	0.029084	156	0.020137
13	0.239315	61	0.051478	109	0.028817	157	0.020008
14	0.22232	62	0.050649	110	0.028556	158	0.019882
15	0.207911	63	0.049845	111	0.028296	159	0.019757
16	0.19509	64	0.049067	112	0.028046	160	0.019633
17	0.183749	65	0.048313	113	0.027798	161	0.019511
18	0.173648	66	0.047581	114	0.027554	162	0.019391
19	0.164594	67	0.046872	115	0.027314	163	0.019272
20	0.156434	68	0.046183	116	0.027079	164	0.019154
21	0.149042	69	0.045514	117	0.026847	165	0.019038
22	0.142314	70	0.044864	118	0.026620	166	0.018924
23	0.136166	71	0.044233	119	0.026396	167	0.018810
24	0.130526	72	0.043619	120	0.026176	168	0.018698
25	0.125333	73	0.043022	121	0.025960	169	0.018588
26	0.120536	74	0.042441	122	0.025747	170	0.018478
27	0.116092	75	0.041875	123	0.025538	171	0.018370
28	0.111964	76	0.041324	124	0.025332	172	0.018264
29	0.108118	77	0.040788	125	0.025130	173	0.018158
30	0.104528	78	0.040265	126	0.024930	174	0.018054
31	0.101168	79	0.039756	127	0.024734	175	0.017950
32	0.098002	80	0.039259	128	0.024541	176	0.017848
33	0.09506	81	0.038773	129	0.024350	177	0.017748
34	0.092268	82	0.038302	130	0.024163	178	0.017648
35	0.08964	83	0.037841	131	0.023979	179	0.017549
36	0.08716	84	0.037391	132	0.023797	180	0.017452
37	0.08481	85	0.036951	133	0.023618	181	0.017355
38	0.08258	86	0.036522	134	0.023442	182	0.017260
39	0.08047	87	0.036102	135	0.023268	183	0.017166
40	0.07846	88	0.035692	136	0.023097	184	0.017073
41	0.07655	89	0.035291	137	0.022929	185	0.01698
42	0.07473	90	0.034899	138	0.022763	186	0.016889
43	0.073	91	0.034516	139	0.022599	187	0.016799
44	0.07134	92	0.034141	140	0.022438	188	0.016709
45	0.06976	93	0.033774	141	0.022278	189	0.016621
46	0.06824	94	0.033414	142	0.022122	190	0.016533
47	0.06679	95	0.033063	143	0.021967	191	0.016447
48	0.0654	96	0.032719	144	0.021814	192	0.016361
49	0.06407	97	0.032381	145	0.021664	193	0.016276
50	0.06279	98	0.032051	146	0.021516	194	0.016193



The picture above is, of course, a magnificent example of an Australian Yew Tree *Taxus Underdasi*). Its botanical name is in honour of George Under, M.I.A. (Masters in Agriculture) D.O.C.S. (Doctorate of Commercial Shrubbery) P.I.T.A (Professional in Tertiary Arbours), who bred the tree as a sport from a cross of the European Yew (*Taxus Overdasi*) and the Irish Yew (*Taxus Roundasii*).

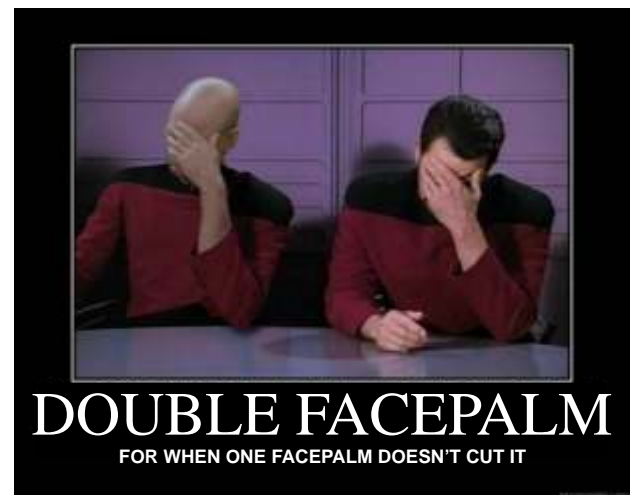
It's spreading habit and aversion to power lines makes it very popular with County Councils and the Electricity Board, as it requires minimum maintenance and upkeep. Therefore, you will often find it growing on verges and Council property, especially in association with power lines.

For the purposes of Woodturning, the Australian Yew Tree is relatively difficult to turn, as useful portions of the wood are almost impossible to mount on the lathe, due to it's twisting and cranky nature. As can be seen above, the exception to this is the lower portion of trunk, which can be relatively straight. However, with the recent legislation prohibiting Woodturners from collecting wood from the side of the road (ostensibly for our "own protection"), it is difficult to find available examples of this wood. There are no known commercial sources. However, if the turner has power lines on their own property, it is possible to grow an example for their own use. Such an effort can be highly rewarding, as the production of "wainy" edged bowls is relatively straightforward with careful application of electricity.

An interesting characteristic of this tree can be observed if two Australian Yew Trees are planted in close proximity, usually less than 20 meters apart. In such an instance, the two tree's roots and branches will intermingle and form a very rare species known as the Australian Double Yew. No woodturning uses have been found for this latter tree.

If you find this article interesting and of use, I will be willing to submit further columns discussing wood grown in Australia with particular interest to woodturning. However, I do require assistance in finding photographs of examples. Currently, I am investigating the Tea Tree, but do not have access to a photograph of a tree that displays its obvious characteristics. Likewise, it would be of great assistance if anyone can provide photographs of A Tree, Bee Tree, the Spanish Si? Tree, and, of course, the French De Tree. Photographs can be sent to sckbs@hotmail.com. However, as the Spam filter is set to maximum for this email address, please resend your photographs if I do not acknowledge receipt within a week. Thank you.

(Grin. Now, read this again, but this time, out loud.)



Ernie Newman's Woodturners Quiz no. 110 - The Questions

1. Can light pass through wood 3mm thick?
2. Which is the best bottom speed for a lathe: 50 rpm, 200 rpm, 500 rpm?
3. Which of the following woodworking tools make effective smoothing cuts similar to those achieved by a skew chisel: a square ended carpenter's chisel, a hand-plane, an axe?
4. Can a surgeon's scalpel be used to carve wood?
5. Name two woodturners who have influenced thousands of Australian woodturners over the last 30-40 years.

1. Light can pass through wood 3mm thick, especially end grain. 3mm thick Radiata Pine allows a bright light to pass through endgrain.

2. A lathe speed of 500 rpm is slow enough for nearly all turning jobs however 200 rpm is better for thread chasing and 50 rpm is better for a really large faceplate piece. I once joined a group of farmers in Proserpine and helped turn a bowl with a diameter of 2.5 metres. The lathe was constructed out of a truck axle, powered by a tractor takeout, had a 600mm diameter faceplate and ran at 60 rpm. This was a good speed for the job. The purpose of the exercise was to turn the largest bowl in the world. It was laminated from 230 pieces of Mackay Cedar. After it was finished the group discovered that a larger bowl had been made. They weren't deterred and dug a hole under the lathe to cater for a larger diameter, glued on more wood and finished with a 3.1 metre bowl and the record. When I first saw the bowl I was surprised that they were using a 12mm bowl gouge to turn the inside. This seemed a bit like sending an ant against an elephant so I suggested that a 25mm bowl gouge might be better. Less than 24 hours later they had made a 25mm bowl gouge. It worked beautifully and reduced turning time significantly. Farmers can do almost anything.

3. A square ended carpenter's chisel, a hand-plane and an axe can all be used to make effective smoothing cuts and a glass-like finish similar to those achieved by a skew chisel. They must be sharp and applied with the bevel rubbing and at a skewed angle to the workpiece.

4. A surgeon's scalpel can be used to carve wood but only if the wood is very soft. Balsa takes a beautiful cut from a scalpel because it is extremely soft but most species are too hard and will cause the blade to chip. This is because scalpels are sharpened to a much finer angle than carving tools which are commonly sharpened at about 20 degrees.

5. Richard Raffan, Mike Darlow and Terry Martin have all written books which have had a big impact. All three have written many magazine articles, demonstrated widely and taught. Terry has organised exhibitions and the other two have produced videos and DVDs. George Hatfield and Vic Wood have written many magazine articles and had long teaching careers mentoring influential turners such as John Ewart, Stephen Hughes and Guilio Marcolongo. Vic organised the first woodworking symposium in Australia in 1979 and both Vic and George brought many international turners to Australia.

I can still remember my first creative writing assignment at school. I was about six or seven, and we had been practicing cursive writing in pen. So, as could be expected, we were asked to enlarge on the subject: "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

I was really excited about this. I had gone through the normal Fireman, or Soldier, or Sportsman fantasies, but when I sat down to write, I realised that I wanted to do them all. I really wanted to do everything that I possibly could imagine.

Well, I spent hours on that assignment. It ended up being a full page (A-5 exercise book, and lined) and I fair-copied it four times before it was perfect. I explained that I liked looking at insects, and making tall buildings with my Leggo and my wooden blocks, and playing around with numbers, and learning about far-away places, but I really wanted to do it all.

I handed in the paper and saw that most of my classmates had written two or three lines, with ink splodges and words crossed out. I was already pretty competitive by that age, so I figured I was going to get top marks.

And I can still remember when the page was handed back to me. At the top, in red pen, was a "C-". And down in the main body, over my carefully written sentences, also in red pen, was "Jack of all Trades, Master of None". No corrections, no noted misspellings, no amendments at all other than that crimson scrawl.

It was the first time I had heard that saying, but I could tell it was a put-down. And it was very effective.

At this remove, I can look back and be aware that the teacher had been ploughing through more than forty very juvenile efforts at expressing themselves, and she must have been tired and bored, and was probably just trying to curb my unrealistic enthusiasm. But guess what... It didn't work. I still want to do it all.

I can also remember only one teacher's name from my infant's school all the way up to year 11. Can you guess which one? Mrs. Stopper. Appropriate, wasn't it?

So, what does this have to do with Woodturning, and the Guild in particular? Well, every one of our groups are dedicated to the idea of teaching: Woodturning in particular, but also finishing, decorating, safety, and just the joy of creating something beautiful and unique from a marvellously varied renewable resource that is all around us. And in any teaching environment, it is just too easy to say something "off the cuff", or to answer a question with a joke, or to dismiss someone's efforts as "not done the right way".

At any one of our meetings, we can watch someone who has been turning for 20 years produce a graceful curve and a clean surface in a fraction of the time that it takes "the rest of us", and that obviously produces a feeling of awe and a great deal of respect. To have that person look at your piece at show and tell, say, "Hmmm... OK." and then go on to the next piece... Well, like I say, I can remember how it felt.

To be honest, I don't think it happens very often and when it does, I suspect it is caused more by "inattention" rather than malice. We are a pretty good group of "guys and gals" and part of our willingness to be a member of the Guild appears to include a fair amount of sensitivity and care for our fellow members. Certainly there is a lot of friendship.

But when you see a "really bad" piece or effort, or something that just doesn't quite "come off", please remember: we were all there once. Walk gently over someone else's pride.

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.sydneymwoodturners.com.au/> our homepage

<http://www.wood-eze.com.au/> Leigh Ferguson's site – sells at Southern maxi days & his own shop

<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.laymar-crafts.co.uk/> Huge site with literally hundreds of useful 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
February	1	—	—
March	29	21 Western	9 a.m \$6
May	31	30 Macarthur	9:45 a.m \$5
July	26	17 Southern	9 a.m \$6
September	27	19 Nor. Beaches	9 a.m \$6
November AGM	29	27 Stn. Highland	10 a.m \$6
All guild meetings 18:30 till finish President Bill Black 9541 2405			

HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC.

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

BANKSTOWN CITY WOODTURNERS INC.

Guides Hall, Waldron Rd Chester Hill	
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>
Feb 6	Feb 9
Mar 6	Mar 9
Apr 3	Apr 13
May 1	May 11
Jun 5	Jun 8
Jul 3	Jul 13
Aug 7	Aug 10
Sep 4	Sep 14
Oct 2	Oct 12
Nov 6	Nov 9
Dec 4	Dec 14
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>
Feb 28	Feb 10
Mar 28	Mar 10
Apr none	Apr 14
May 1 & 30	May 12
Jun 27	Jun 9
Jul 25	Jul 14
Aug 29	Aug 11
Sep 26	Sep 8
Oct 31	Oct 13
Nov 28	Nov 10
Dec none	Dec 5
Sunday Maxi 0945 - 1500 cost \$5 Wednesday Mini 1100 - 1430 Mini meetings at 48 Engesta Ave Sth Camden President Paul Kruss 9823 8340	

EASTERN REGION WOODTURNERS INC.

Unit 16, 14 Anderson St. Banksmeadow	
<u>Sunday</u>	
Feb 7	
Mar 7	
Apr 11	
May 2	
Jun 6	
Jul 4	
Aug 1	
Sep 5	
Oct10	
Nov 7	
Dec 5	
Sundays 1000 - 1530 President Graham Tilly 9660 3071	

MENAI REGION WOODTURNERS INC.

Menai High School Gerald Rd. Illawong
Tuesday
Feb 9
Mar 9
Apr 20
May 11
Jun 15
Jul 20
Aug 17
Sep 14
Oct 12
Nov 16
Dec 7
Tuesdays 1800 - 2100 President Bruce Houldin 9542 1087

NORTHERN BEACHES WOODTURNERS INC.

Narrabeen RSL Club Nareen Pde North Narrabeen		
Sunday	Tuesday Workshop	Friday Workshop
Feb 21	2,9,16,23	5,12,19,26
Mar 21	2,9,16,23	5,12,19,26
Apr 18	6,13,20,27	9,16,23,30
May 16	4,11,18,25	7,14,21,28
Jun 27	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30
Jul 18	6,13,20,27	2,9,16,23,30
Aug 15	3,10,17,24	6,13,20,27
Sep 19	7,14,21,28	3,10,17,24
Oct 17	5,12,19,26	1,8,15,22,29
Nov 21	2,9,16,23,30	5,12,19,26
Dec 12	7,14,21	3,10,17
Sundays 0900 - 1400 Workshops 0900 - 1200 President Meg Webster 9450 1032		

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS WOODIES INC.

Harbison Care Villiage Moss Vale Rd. Burradoo	
Saturday	Friday
Feb 27	5,12,19,26
Mar 27	5,12,19,26
Apr 24	2,16,23,30
May 22	7,14,21,28
Jun 26	4,11,18,25
Jul 24	9,16,23,30
Aug 28	6,13,20,27
Sep 25	3,10,17,24
Oct 23	8,15,22,29
Nov 27	5,12,19,26
Dec 11	3,10,17
Saturdays 1000 - 1630 Wednesday/Friday 0930 - 1230 Pls call for Wed/Fri to confirm meeting President John Powell 4871 2714	

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							Bi-Monthly @ Southern
Feb	3	10	15	20	25	23-24	
Mar	3	10	15	20	25	23-24	
Apr	7	14	12	17	22	27-28	
May	5	12	10	15	20	25-26	Oyster Bay Skool Fete
Jun	2	9	15	26**	24	22-23	18,19,20 WWWS
Jul	7	14	12	17 BM	22	27-28	Bi-Monthly @ Southern
Aug	4	11	16	21AGM	26	24-25	Annual General Meeting
Sep	1	8	13	18	23	28-29	
Oct	6	13	11	16	21	26-27	Craft Show
Nov	3	10	15	20	25	23-24	Xmas party Oct. 28th
Dec	1	8	13	18++	-	-	Xmas party @ Cubby Hse
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	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Feb 21	2,9,16,23	3,10,17,24	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26
Mar 21	2,9,16,23	3,10,17,24	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26
Apr 18	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	9,16,23,30
May 16	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28
Jun 20	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24	4,11,18,25
Jul 18	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30
Aug 15	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27
Sep 19	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24
Oct 17	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,29
Nov 21	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26
Dec 19	7,14,21	1,8,15,22	2,9,16	3,10,17

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! POST \$2.50
 Wear backwards - become a turner with attitude!

CLOTH BADGES AND ENAMEL BADGES \$5.00
 Order from: Treasurer, Fred Warr, 4 Wittenoon Place YARRAWARRAH, 2223

Our August meeting was a somewhat chilly day with rain, but 26 members attended, and it seems that they had a good time, as 26 turned up again for the September meeting, even though they had been warned that it was to be Bankstown's AGM. The August meeting followed our regular hands on format, with some members happy to watch, and others making shavings all day. Our 9 lathes were occupied for most of the day, as they are at every meeting.

Our September meeting weather was much the same as August, but with a hint of warmer Spring in the air. The AGM was opened by our President Kevin, and the relevant reports (President's, Treasurer's, and Guild Committee Rep's) were submitted and accepted.

John Cruickshank acted as Returning Officer, and in Bankstown's inimitable way, we saved a lot of time when there were no new volunteers for the executive positions, and the incumbents were returned unanimously.

President Kevin Santwyk, Vice President Alf Lord, Secretary Doug Midgley, Treasurer Ken O'Donnell, Committee Rep Hasso Constantin, Membership Secretary David King, and our Committee members are David King, Hasso Constantin, and Bert Sims.

Show and Tell was held after the AGM, and we were able to enjoy a barbecue lunch on the porch, in what sunshine was available.

Our members also enjoyed a demo day at Bunnings Villawood on August 29, with 2 lathes in operation all day, and from all reports the day was a worthwhile outing and may well result in some new members.

Sadly, only our August Show and Tell is represented in these photos, as I forgot to take my camera to the September meeting.



Eastern Region was started in 1985-1986 by Jim Dorbis while a student of woodturning at a College of Technical and Further Education. Things were hard in the beginning but at the same time exciting .

Eastern Region is the smallest of all the Sydney Woodturners Guild Regions but it is well supported. Most of the members are working and often lack time to devote to their hobby but are emphatic that the eastern region will survive .

In the early days of the Region, meetings were held at Jim Dorbis's premises, But recently meetings are being held in various other members workshops which is a good way of seeing other peoples tools and equipment and approach to workshop safety. The members find this approach very practical .

Eastern Region is a miniature United Nations with members originating from Sweden, Italy, Egypt, Israel and Malta. Some members even come from Sydney

Eastern Region usually meets on the first Sunday of each month although this sometimes changes to accomodate long week ends and other holiday periods. Details of meeting loacations and dates may be got from;

- Graham Tilly (Convenor) 9660 3071
- Stephen Gahan (Guild Representative) 98173083

As we are a Region of the Sydney Woodturners Guild, all Guild members may attend our meetings and local or overseas visitors are especially welcome. We have found that it is easier to learn in a small group then in a large one. Our fees are \$2.00 a meeting.

If you are looking for a new hobby please do come and join us, you'll never regret it.

Twenty one members and friends either enjoyed morning coffee at our Convener's first or went directly to Trend Timbers' recently opened new premises at Mulgrave, where our August Meeting was held. Trend had organised the gala Open Days with many demonstrators, equipment displays and vast quantities of timber in racks and on sales tables.

There was no formal business for the day which was essentially checking out the products and features incorporated in the new buildings and viewing wood turning demos from John Ewart, Daryl Smith and others, plus about five ornamental turners and sculptors. It was good to see ex SWG member Bill Swindail with 'his' Cumberland Woodworkers Inc. demonstrators, (see www.wood.asn.au).

The numerous tables displayed a good array of woodturning blanks and turning wood but at somewhat advanced prices. An item now made from lignum vitae or Indian ebony would 'turnout' at quite an expensive cost so we may need, in general, to look for the more economical cuts.

Trend's stairway, made from many different woods (all labelled), was notable drawing much attention during the whole day, and the lathes on show were under frequent review as well.

U-Beaut polishes managed to attract our convener and showed us all how to get a really great finish on our work.

Russ was noticed proudly displaying the largest roughing gouge ever seen, (which he had just purchased), so perhaps we will see a 'big' jump in the size of his turnings in the very near future?

Around 1 pm lunch was fairly popular and at 3 pm, after catching-up on Trend and the latest in turning products and equipment etc, the informative day was finished.

At September's meeting Daryl Smith will demonstrate, the AGM will be held and as well a Spring Raffle (please bring a useful entry or two to include).

Also there remains a number of members' fees still outstanding; please pay the treasurer at this meeting.

Till September.....please keep turning.





Macarthur is powering on with quite a few new members, lately. We welcome these and hope their stay with us is long and worthwhile.

We are soon to be on “The Web” with our own website and more details will be forthcoming.

Our Shirts, Caps & badges are now available so please contact John Jewell to pick up yours or place an order.

We’ve been busy over the last couple of months with 4 Bunnings BBQ’s along with a couple of demonstrations, one of which attracted the Arts Director of The Casula Powerhouse and it looks like the Guild may be involved in putting on a display of our art at this very prestigious venue.

We will be planning soon for 2011 but until then the following plans are for the rest of the year –

3rd October there’s a mini meeting at Frank’s place 48 Engesta Ave. South Camden from 11am till around 2:30pm.

17th October sees us at Mater Dei Special School where we put on a display every year. This is very popular with our members as there’s a lot to see and do outside and inside our pavilion.

24th October sees us hosting a BBQ & Demonstration at Bunnings, Campbelltown. We haven’t been here for some time and it will be great to be back to our most rewarding venue.

31st October sees us at our regular maxi meeting at the Robert Townson High School in Raby and we’ll be there from 9:45am till around 2:30pm. We’ll be in the Industrial Arts Building adjacent to the last car park, on the left, as you go up Shuttleworth Ave. from Spitfire Drive.

10th November we will again have a mini meeting at Frank’s, South Camden.

27th November sees us hosting a BBQ & Demonstration at Bunnings, Hoxton Park so we will be asking for help. Please let me know if you have a couple of hours to spare.

28th November we are having our last maxi meeting for 2010 so let’s see if we can get most of our members there.

5th December is our Christmas Party at Frank’s place 48 Engesta Ave. South Camden from around 10am. Please bring a chair and a “plate” along with your partner, if you wish.

Keep Turning

I’ll see you around the traps

Chris Dunn

Reluctant reporter



We are one of the affiliated incorporated organisations that that comprise the Sydney Woodturners Guild Inc.

As a region, of moderate size, we concentrate on giving the members that attend our monthly meetings 'hands-on' tuition and advice.

Our Aims

- To create an environment where new and existing members can receive informal, personal and 'hands-on' woodturning tuition.
- To provide a venue where members can discuss all woodturning issues.
- To provide demonstrations, presentations and advice as and when members require.

Workshop

The workshop has 5 Woodfast lathes, complete with tools, various chucks and faceplates. This equipment is supplemented with the region's Teknatool Comet lathe, which has its own tools and accessories.

What we do

Members are encouraged to bring timber and tools and, under guidance if required, work on their projects.

The region supplies timber and tools for those members who do not yet have their own.

Visitors, even those of you just mildly curious, and members from other regions are more than welcome to come along to any of our meetings.

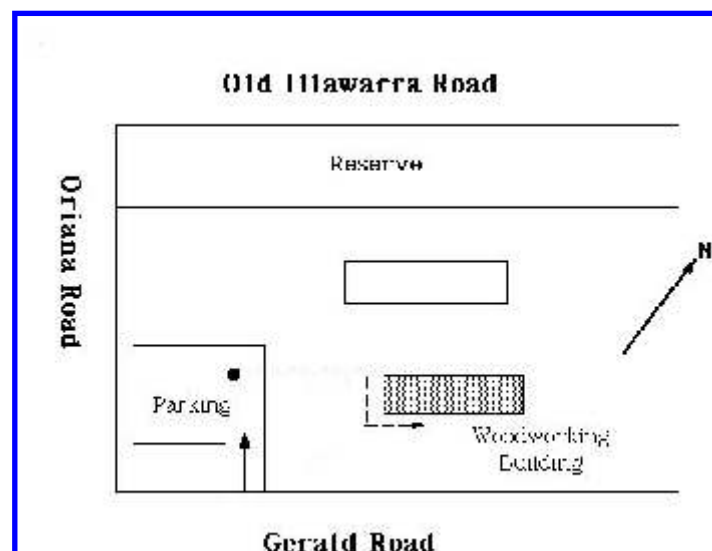
You will enjoy the company, make new friends and be encouraged to ask plenty of questions.

Meeting are held monthly on Tuesdays at 6 pm.

Verify specific meeting dates by contacting President, Bruce Houldin on 9541 4050

Our meetings are held in the woodworking workshop of the Menai High School.

Entry to the parking area is from Gerald Road, Illawong. (See map below)



Sunday Meeting 15th August 2010

Twenty six turners braved the cold, wet and stormy start to the day. A brief meeting was conducted the main points arising being that:-

We have been offered a spot to demonstrate our craft at the Bunnings Belrose spring fair on Sunday 25th August. A number of turners have offered to demonstrate so we can cover from 9am to 3pm. This will be a good way of raising our profile in the community. The club has also negotiated one day a year to conduct a sausage sizzle at Bunnings as a fund raiser for us. The first one will be between Christmas and New year. This will require help from as many members as possible so please be prepared to pitch in and help when requested.

The date of our Christmas Party has been set for Sunday 12th December, put it in your diary now.

Some discussion took place around teaching computer skills for those who would like some help. Rupert and Lloyd are prepared to help, more info later.

On a very sad note the meeting was advised that Barry Grainger had lost his fight and passed away in the early hours of Sunday. Barry was a stalwart of the club and performed many functions behind the scenes. Very much a gentleman and a great turner he will be sadly missed.



SHOW AND TELL was conducted by Aaron with the challenge for this month being to make a clock. We had some great examples, all of them slightly different.



Lloyd - unfinished pine cylinder clock,
Rupert - Brown Mallee burl



Meg - Myrtle on stand, Cedar with pyrographed map on case lid.
Bill - clock for a caravan and one yet without a movement in Tasmanian Myrtle



Barry - tide clock
Garry - Mallee burl



Norm - Mallee burl with two coats satin polyurethane



Graham - Huon Pine finished with Dulux sanding sealer
Tom English, two clocks in pine with one natural & one stained.



Sam - cedar clock and one on a slice of home grown Mango



Jack - 1, cedar and Jacaranda
2, Rosewood 'doodle' (rocking) clock
3, London Flame from Melb Cricket Ground
4, Rosewood



Aaron - always unusual didn't let us down with his collection of alternate time keeping pieces



Aaron - Bowline equatorial sun clock with solar powered alarm, Pendulum 'bundy' clock, night time mechanised sun dial and a Shepherds dial which measures the height of the sun above the horizon and translates that to time depending on the time of the year.



Show & Tell - July Meeting Project for July was a Cutting Board



Paul Bruce: Bowl, leylandia pine



Ron South: Cup & Saucer, camphor laurel



Bill Bailey: Cup, Saucer & Spoon, black wattle & ash



Col Hayman: Cup, Saucer & Spoon, huon & ginko



Paul Bruce: Bowl, silky oak



Paul Bruce: Lidded Bowl, silky oak & ceramic



Max Donato: Music Boxes, River Red Gum



Peter Jackson: Cup, Saucer & Spoon, huon and radiata



John Crisp: Lidded Bowl, eucalypt burl

Arts Trail 6-7 November

The Arts Trail is fast approaching. We need goods for sale with lots of variety. Some of the things that we could do that we did not have last year are:

Honey dippers

- Bird houses
- Teaspoons
- Breadboards

Candle sticks and holder

- Wall hangings
- Butter knives
- Keyrings

Ear ring stands

- Picture frames
- Lamps
- Clocks

Necklace and chain stands

- Ring stands
- Needle Cases
- Pedestal bowls
- Spartles
- Cake knives
- Sugar bowls
- Dibbers

Show & Tell - July Meeting Project for July was a cutting board.



Roger Wilson: Bowl, false cypress & Bowl, leylandia pine



Ian Pye: Platter, Kauri



Ian Pye: Platter, Kauri



John Harris: Lidded Bowl (lid is an extra bowl, ginkgo biloba & Bowl, thuyra



Graeme Webb: Chopping Board, Tas blackwood & Tas oak



Ian Pye: Inside out turned Lamp, oregon



John Harris: Multi-centred bowl, PNG walnut



Graeme Webb: Cup, Saucer & Spoon- huon, WR cedar & Fiji mahogany, Lidded Bowl-Aust hardwood



John Harris: Cloak pins, Qld flooring boards

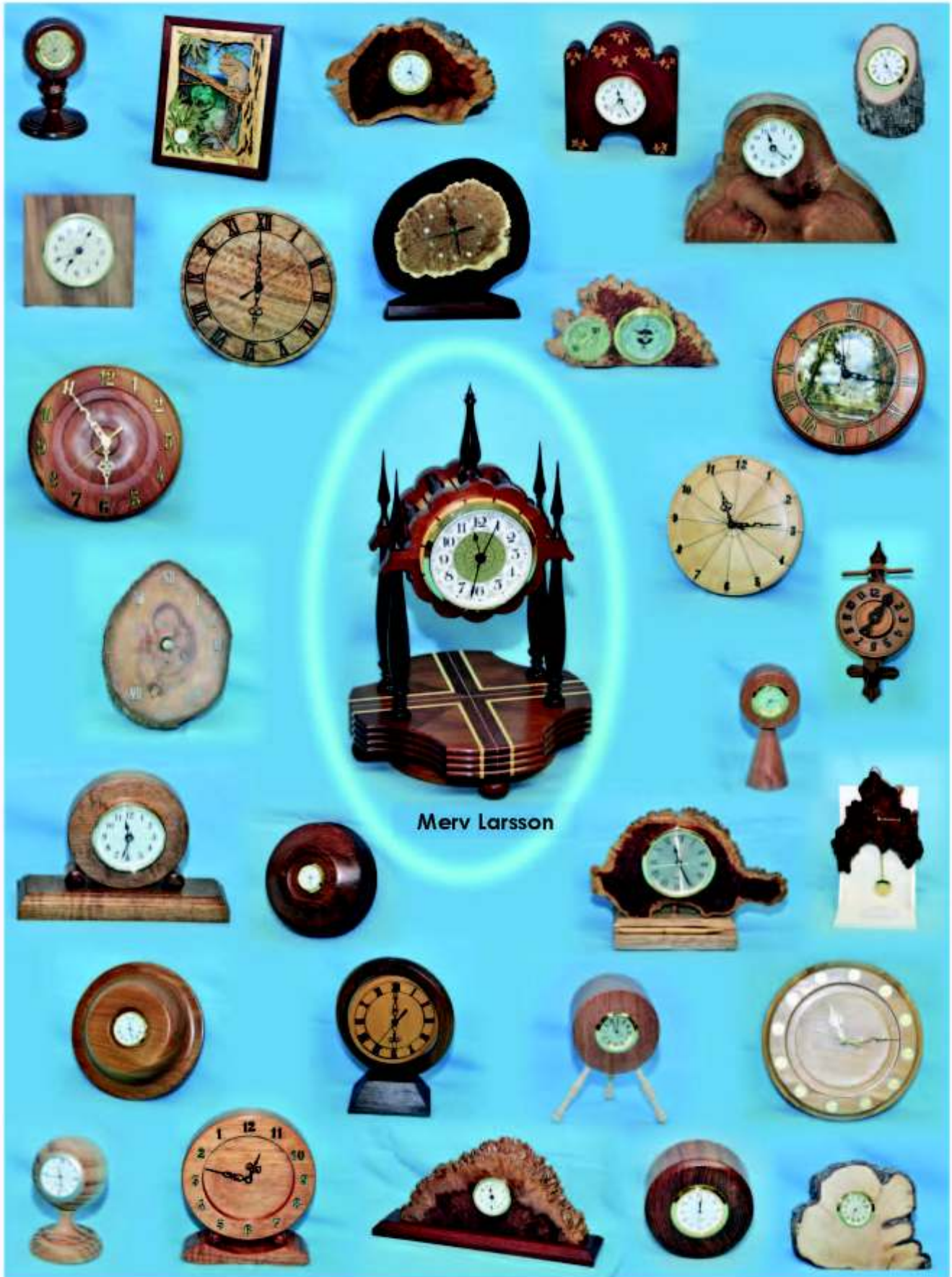


Graeme Webb: Wine bottle coaster, Aust h'wood



John Harris: Natural Edge Bowl, beena

Show and Tell - Clocks



This is just a summary of our activities over the last year or so.

We hope this may give some of the other clubs ideas. If we can help you in any way make contact with us or better still come up and visit us . You will be made most welcome.

Preamble

What can I say other than "Its all happening" mainly due to the influence of our president and a good committee plus a lot of energetic members we seem to be going from strength to strength.

As you may or may not be aware our club premises is an old church at Lalor Park which we lease from Blacktown Council. Over the last year or so we have made a lot of improvements and expanded.

Our original layout was, at the front of the building on one side we had a carport and the other side was an open entrance patio. We have enclosed both these and made the carport into our bandsaw and machinery room including grinder, drill, sanders and local dust extractor. The other side is now our entrance vestibule with several built in glass fronted display cabinets for our work. This also incorporates a store room for all our demonstrating equipment and supplies that we take out with us.

Inside the building there was a raised up stage area. This has been completely removed and the floor is all now on the one level. We now have five lathes in this area plus a bench. The overall result is that we have about 30% more usable floor area. During this time we constructed a fairly large weatherproof lockable Timber storage rack down the side of the building, which also houses a dust extractor we have acquired. The old fibro roof on the building was damaged in a hail storm so the council kindly replaced the lot with a new metal roof. Recently we had some sewer problems and again the council kindly replaced the majoratory of the old terracotta pipes and a lot of the rainwater pipes with plastic. At the same time they were good enough to do some earthmoving and made a driveway out to the front street. This was to help us as we had made gates and modified our fencing so we can completely drive around the building. So we can now utilise what was a waste area out the back for more off street parking.

We recently received the OK from the council to install 40ft container out the back plus erect an awning over the whole rectangle at our main entrance. Our boys are now busily engaged in getting this done .

One of our guys recently donated a trailer and another member had the whole thing rebuilt and covered in with metal and made weatherproof . So we are now fitting this out so we can use it to transport all our gear for demonstrating. We have recently repainted out the inside of the workshop and it looks good

Safety

Safety is paramount. We teach our new members this from the start. Each lathe is fitted with a mesh safety screen, air cleaner & light. We instruct all our new people how to run machinery and turn safety. On our big bandsaw only senior experienced members are allowed to use this. Generally this is a two man operation with the experienced member helping the newer member until they become proficient.

So far we have not had a serious accident. We now have a supply of dust masks and safety glasses in the store.

A couple of our guys have produced a first class safety booklet relative to all our equipment and this will be issued to all members shortly.

With our new woodworking machinery, this is only being used by a few select experienced guys at present until we can train newcomers.

Equipment

We now have 18 lathes, two bandsaws, grinder, pedestal drill and a couple of sanders plus all the ancillary items and tools for these. We are now moving towards general woodworking and we have acquired a jointer, a brand new thicknesser, table saw, several dropsaws, router table, jig saw, fret saw, and a drum sander for segmenting work plus a lot of electric hand tools and all the ancillary items to go with all these. We have converted the alcove near our kitchen with built in benches and shelves to house these plus we now can use this as a work area.

We now have 3 phase power available into this area. We have had to run extra electrical circuits back to our switchboard for all this equipment and we are contemplating installing a new larger modern switchboard to cope.

Dust Extraction and Air Filters

We have acquired a large double bag dust extractor and there is a possibility of a second one. We have also acquired a large quantity of second hand sheet metal exhaust duct. This all needs to be finally installed and ductwork fitted and run inside the building. We hope to start doing something about this in the near future.

We have had for several years some large fan filter air cleaners adapted from air conditioners located at high level in the workshop and these work well. We also designed and fitted smaller fan filter units in a box that we hang on each lathe. These pick up the bulk of the dust at the closest point to the work and the remainder is collected by the larger units. This now enables us to sand and power sand without too many problems. Notwithstanding this most of our guys wear a dust mask or respirator when sanding.

We are now getting prices for a full dust extract system and if we can get a grant of money we may be able to go ahead with this

Club Activity Times

We are now open four days a week, Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs and Friday nights plus one Sunday a month. We average about 15 members per day during the week and up to 40 on a Sunday and Friday nights are becoming very popular with about 15 people

Membership

We now have around 120 members, and growing, with a lot of new faces, and I am pleased to say the majority are active members.

Demonstrations

We do a lot of demonstrating, far too many to mention here. On Sunday the 31Jan we had our first all day sausage sizzle at Bunnings at Blacktown it was a huge success financially and since then we have had several more and this looks like becoming a regular event

Money Raising Activities for Charity

We have for many years run a continuous activity that we call our Charity Bowls Project. We get a lot of 20mm thick off cuts from a large joinery shop which we laminate and glue together into blocks and then turn bowls from these plus allsorts of other things. We then sell these when we are out demonstrating. We raised \$2200.00 last year. This is a great way of recycling timber that otherwise would be dumped. This also gives us an almost inexhaustible supply of timber for our new members to learn on plus our older members to use as they see fit. We ask our members to make at least one bowl per month for charity. We recently held a competition where we had to make anything we liked, but it had to be from

this timber. This was then judged by a panel. The items produced were very good and the competition was a success.

Open Day

On the 5th Dec 2009 we had our first open day. It was a big success. We had an overwhelming response from our members. One of our guys plays in a Jazz band and they came along and played all day plus we had a dance floor set up. The display of our work was impressive, both quality and quantity and we sold a lot of our products which is very encouraging. We are not located in a busy area but nevertheless a lot of people turned up. We acquired around 10 new members on the day. We learnt a lot and we feel that next year will be better. We hope to make this an annual event.

Club Supplies to Members

We make or buy the following and sell them to our members at a cheap rate for their benefit .

Club Shirts and Patches
Abrasive paper both velcro backed or plain
Our own Friction polish
Our own triple EEE wax
End grain Sealer
Laquer
Pen Kits
Polishing Cloths

Pen Making

Some time back we gained a source of supply of pen kits directly from the makers in China . This enables us to sell to our members at about half the normal retail price. We have a large variety of styles to pick from plus all the ancillary bit and pieces to go with them. Consequently pen making has become very popular and a lot of our guys are making them. I must say that the standard of manufacture has become very high and the finishing has become first class, equal or better than what I have seen from overseas.

Some of the guys have moved up market and buy more expensive kits from various suppliers and the final product is excellent.

Segmenting

One of our members does superb segmenting work and took out the First& Third prize at the Working with Wood Show. Due this influence segmenting is becoming popular and the guy concerned has donated and installed facilities to do this work so this opens up another avenue for us.

Mentoring Programs

We are involved in two mentoring programs for young people. We now have two teenage boys come on a Tuesday and due to the mentoring being given to them by two of our members it is highly successful. We will be commencing a second different program shortly with about six teenage schoolboys. I expect this to be the same success.

Classes

We are still conducting classes, mostly on a Saturday. I had the pleasure of being a helper over the last few and I am very impressed at the quality and standard of teaching and so was the students. This is a great way to introduce newcomers to woodturning and our club. So lets keep this up.

Show and Tell

The standard of our work generally is first class and the variety is increasing . Segmenting is starting to become popular and we are starting to see some general woodworking. So we look forward to the future.

Well that's about all I have to say. So come up and see us sometime. We like having visitors and there is bottomless cup of coffee and biscuits and you may be able to take some ideas back to your club.

Alan Phelps 2010

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