

# WOODTURNERS NEWS



(WOODTURNERS GUILD OF N.S.W.)

Newsletter No. 2/88

By hand and eye

March 1988

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**NEXT MEETING**

**25th March 1988**  
**Timber - A talk by a**  
**representative of the Forest**  
**Commission.**

**Presidents Choice**  
**A piece of TREEN.**

## EDITORIAL

I really enjoyed the last meeting (5th February) although I cannot understand why there weren't any members present on the date specified in the last magazine - 4th February. Yet another blooper - I hope it didn't inconvenience anybody. Although I'm sure some members present (on the 5th) were disappointed that there was not a speaker I'm equally sure that a lot enjoyed the free flowing exchange.

The weekly lucky door prize is working very well thanks to the generosity of a number of people who have very kindly donated something for that purpose. The Woodturning Centre started the ball rolling and when Neil Jones heard of the new venture he spontaneously dusted off his cheque book and donated a \$20 prize. Thank you Neil and "Studio 32" at Nelson Bay. Don't forget to call in to see Neil when you are up that way - some very interesting articles in the gallery.

On the subject of donations, a quick note to acknowledge Ken Graham's generosity. We found that he had paid his subs twice and, when told, immediately made his second payment a donation - Thanks Ken.

The lucky door prize and donations ensure that the planned library is not too far away. There have been a number of discussions about the library at committee level and we are currently looking at books to buy. Some of the other woodturning groups have published a list of books and I will do the same in the near future. In the meantime if there are books you think should be in the library (or if you think we shouldn't have a library) why not let the committee know.

A Television Star in the Guild ?? Was that really you we saw recently on television, Gloria ?? Aren't you lucky having the Premier living (???) in your electorate !!

### President's Choice - June meeting

"Something New - something Old" That is the theme for the June Meeting President's Choice. Frank would like to see something turned when you first started turning and something recently turned so that we can see how your style has changed, how much your turning has improved (have you any of those inevitable diglins from the past??) and generally how your turning has developed (telegraph poles yesterday - toothpicks today etc).

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Acting on advice from a number of quarters and following the initiative of a number of kindred woodturners' organisations, the Guild Committee at its meeting held on 17th February, 1988, made the decision that our Guild should become an Incorporated association.

The question may well be asked, why Incorporation in view of the fact that our Guild, in its present form, seems to be satisfying the needs of our membership?

The answer to that question is that the main benefits of Incorporation are that it protects individuals within an organisation. Committee members of unincorporated bodies face the possibility of being sued as individuals. Creation of a separate legal entity through Incorporation usually prevents this happening provided the Committee operates in accordance with acceptable business and community standards.

Other major advantages of Incorporation are: the Incorporated association can sue or be sued; the incorporated association continues regardless of changes in membership etc, unless it is wound up or its registration is cancelled; the Incorporated association can accept gifts and bequests; the Incorporated association has the power to hold, acquire and deal with property; the Incorporated association can enter into and enforce contracts;

A further explanation of Incorporation clarifies the position of individual members. Incorporation means that the association becomes a legal entity separate from individual members. If an association is not incorporated, legal rights and obligations fall on individual members.

Hopefully this brief explanation of Incorporation adequately covers both the need and the Guild Committee's decision to seek Incorporation.

As a guarantee against the Guild being sued as an Incorporated body we will be obliged to take out a Public Liability Insurance policy for a minimum of \$2 million (at a cost of \$200.15 per annum) with an approved insurer. There will be other charges made to cover the costs associated with Incorporation. Enough on Incorporation!



I found the format of the last general meeting of the Guild both an interesting and valuable experience. While I do not suggest that this type of meeting, where the members can exchange ideas and information, should cut across our policy of invited guest speakers - I would suggest that a similar type of meeting should be conducted once a year and should perhaps be the first meeting of the year.

'Till the next meeting..... Keep the lathes turning

**Frank Bollins**

\* \* \* \* \*

## REGIONAL MEETINGS

### NORTHERN REGION MEETING

The January meeting of the Northern Region turners was held at the home of Max Nicholas on Friday, 22nd January.

A very good turn-up of members made the meeting a very enjoyable one and it was very pleasing to see Mac Knowles back on deck after some weeks in hospital.

Discussion took place on the subject of toy making for the needy and members agreed to look for plans or drawings to help in this project and these will be taken to the next meeting to be held in March.

Dates of meetings for the rest of 1988 for the Northern Region are 4th March, 6th May, 1st July, 2nd September, 4th November. The meeting on Friday, 4th March will be held at Mac Knowles' home, 7 Brice Avenue, St. Ives, phone: 449 2520. The subject of the evening's discussion will be "A Platter".

A visit to the workshop (garage) produced a lot of questions on such things as long boring tools, graphite for lubricating, fluting, a simple idea for holding rolls of abrasive paper and chucking methods for making small objects.

Supper produced some favourable comments on Max's smoked fish which was enjoyed by all and the meeting ended at 11p.m.

### EASTERN REGION MEETING

We had a good attendance at our meeting held on 9th February, 1988. Our friends who don't attend don't know what they're missing.

Mannie Busuttil gave us a short lecture on how to go about to prepare and turn a Segmented Bowl. The selection of timbers was tops. Most interesting and informative. Never throw away little pieces of timber as they can be very handy.

The fun of the night, however, was our attempt (and success) in turning a bowl out of a rough blank 14" x 5". We all had a go and a lot of fun.

Thank you Eastern Woodturners for offering to help the Prince of Wales Children's Hospital. Our offer has already been accepted with great delight. Details will follow shortly.

**IMPORTANT:** After discussion it was unanimously decided (for Technical reasons) to change our meeting nights to every **SECOND MONDAY** of each alternate month. Therefore our next meeting will be on:

Monday, 11th April at 7p.m. 55 Darley Road Randwick Phone: 399 3068  
**FOR PLEASURE'S SAKE .....KEEP TURNING**

**JIM DORRIS**

### SOUTHERN REGION MEETING

Some details of Craft Markets in the Southern District for members who may wish to participate, either singly or as a group, to sell some of their work.

A market day organised by the Carlingbah Rotary Club is held on the last Sunday of every of every month in the Woolworth's car park, Willarong Road South, Carlingbah. Just bring along your saleable items and your own trestle table about 7.30a.m. on the morning and you will be allocated a car space in which to set up. A charge of \$12.00 casual or \$10.00 per-

manent will be applicable. Market finishes whenever - usually around 1.30-2.00p.m. according to a "buying crowd". Usually very popular with lookers and buyers.

A craft market is organised by the Sutherland Council on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 9a.m. to 1p.m. commencing 5th March.

To become a registered vendor for only \$5.00 per year, samples of articles must be submitted for approval of workmanship and quality. No commercially manufactured articles will be accepted - only genuine hand-crafted articles to be offered for sale. Tables will be supplied to all exhibitors except for 6 or 7 market days during the year when exhibitors will be required to supply their own. The venue is in the forecourt of the Sutherland Civic Centre, Eton Street, Sutherland.

As Sutherland Shire was the Birthplace of the Nation, It has been honoured by being granted the 22nd National Folk Festival for the 1988 Bicentennial Year.

In conjunction with the National Folk Festival, a Colonial Art and Craft Fair will be held at Eton Street, Sutherland, 1st-4th April (Easter Weekend) at which traditional crafts will be emphasised. This will be a large and extremely well organised festival with many interstate exhibitors with special attention being given to manual crafts so it could prove to be a good venue for some of our members to combine to display and sell some of their work.

Covered stalls will be supplied for \$70.00 for the three or four days. Further information may be obtained from Festival organiser DANNY WATSON of DANGAR ISLAND, phone 455-1375.

**GEORGE EVANS**

\*\*\*\*\*

### THIS IS MY STORY

It all started a long time ago, when I asked my wife that fatal question which I'm sure has been asked many times before. "What would you like for Christmas, dear?" The answer was at the ready and came back like



a rifle shot. "I'd like a large doll's house to display the boxes of miniature furniture I've been saving up for years," was the reply. After I recovered from the shock I decided that, after being so stupid as to ask the question, I'd give it a go. I sat down and planned the basics then got on with the job.

Not knowing how long it would take, I worked to about a 95% completion by the end of September and left the finishing for December. Around the top I needed to do some turnings for decorations, and as I had a small lathe that was operated by an electric drill, away I went. The finished result at the time I thought was not too bad but the turning did intrigue me so I thought I'd like to learn a little more about it.

After making some enquiries, I took myself along to Sydney Technical College to the section where it seemed to me that all the woodworking was happening.

Of course, as it always happens, it must have been lunchtime and, as I poked my head in the door, there sat a group of gentlemen garbed in dustcoats munching away on their sandwiches.



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All heads turned towards the door and one lonely voice said "Yeah, can I help you mate?" I replied, "Yeah, I want to talk to someone about woodturning". "Got the right bloke here for you", the voice said. "He's the Head Teacher for woodturning."

Up got the Head Teacher and out came YOU KNOW WHO! "What can I do for you, mate?"

"I'd like to get a few pointers on woodturning".

"We don't give pointers, we give instruction and lessons" said YOU KNOW WHO.

O.K." said I. "I'll have some instruction and lessons".

Sorry, mate, but we are all full up. But, if you leave your name, I'll give you a ring when I get a vacancy".

Three weeks later I get a phone call from YOU KNOW WHO to say that if I come along next Friday night at 5.30p.m. I can start.

Eagerly I turn up next Friday night and after waiting around for approximately an hour I decided that he forgot to tell anyone else it was on. So, home I went.

On Monday I phoned to find out why I was the only one there only to be told that I had been at the Wood Machining Section, Woodturning was across the road tucked away in Building No. 13.

Finally I started and three weeks later came the Christmas break. My teacher, Bernie Axford, then told us the good news. Woodturning was moving to a new annexe but it wouldn't be ready for occupation until at least the beginning of the second term. As one might expect, with all the haste of the Public Works Department, the section was ready for occupation in the third term so, finally, it was go, again. One term, and guess what - Christmas break again.

The following year my wife and I planned an extended trip around Australia so, instead of the inside classroom, I learned what woodturners were doing all around the countryside from Perth to Darwin. Boy, what an education!

Back once more and enrolment day finally came and I was there to be cordially greeted by YOU KNOW WHO and, after a short casual discussion, he explained that the rules had changed. No more hobby courses - only a full curriculum - two nights, practical and drawing, complete with

exams. Worst of all, he had too many students and didn't know what to do.

"O.K." said I, "Forget me, I'll do something else". So away I went out to Meadowbank Tech. and enrolled in an entirely different two year course. Well, I completed that course without any hitches and I am happy to say I collected a certificate.

Enrolment day again and I said to myself "Why not?" So away I went to see YOU KNOW WHO. This time, bingo! No problems. We did do a bit of head scratching though - what stage could I enroll in - Stage 1, 2 or 3?

Who cares anyway? I actually completed one full year at woodturning but at exam time I couldn't attend, so, NO CERTIFICATE.

## AM I QUALIFIED?

**GEORGE LUSTER**

P.S. On behalf of myself and the many students he has taught, I wish to thank the Head Teacher of Woodturning, George Hatfield, for his patience and diligence to us all.

**# # # # # # # # #**

## HISTORIC HOMES VISIT

On Sunday 21st February, a good contingent of Guild members attended the visit to Experiment Farm Cottage and Old Government House, Parramatta.

Our group met at Experiment Farm Cottage at 1p.m. and was treated to a very informative and descriptive tour of this typical early colonial Georgian style cottage, built during the early nineteenth century.

The furniture throughout the cottage was almost exclusively made from native red cedar and almost every item contained some form of wood turning.

An interesting viewing was the courtyard well which had to be filled manually by servants, from a nearby creek. From this, the water was purified for cooking and drinking through a sandstone dripstone.

After our enjoyable visit to the Cottage, our group moved on to Old Government House, situated in Parramatta Park. It was soon evident that this was truly the residence of Governors. Chandeliers and a lot of intricate inlay work were features of the magnificent furniture and fittings on display throughout this National Trust building. Once again, most of the furniture was native red cedar and, again, contained a lot of wood turning, which was of great interest to all Guild Members.

At the conclusion of the tour, most members availed themselves of the coffee shop in the courtyard, to have an enjoyable Devonshire tea.

## Max Nicholas

(Thanks for taking the time to write about the trip Max - Ed)

\* \* \* \* \*

While having a few weeks rest at Shoal Bay, I called in to see Joan and Neil Jones' Studio 32 at Nelson bay, only to find that George Hatfield and his wife were also spending a few days at Neil's home.

Neil and Joan were in the process of setting up their gallery for a pottery display by Newcastle artist, Michael Wein. While walking in the gallery, George spotted a particular article which basically looked like a plum bob shape which was resting on a three legged stand which had a circular top. George saw the opportunity to make a stand which was to be more complimentary to support the creation and hastily disappeared into Neil's workshop only to appear about 30 minutes later with the completed article, which was critically examined prior to being given the award of excellence by all, even the critical eye of Joan Jones could not fault the finished product.



The highlight of the stay came on the day of the exhibition when a prospective buyer, after having learnt the finer points about the pottery creation, turned to George for some explanation on the artistic creation of the base. George, who we all know as an extremely competent professional turner, proceeded with his normal matter-of-fact approach, to inform the interested customer that the timber selected was a piece of turned mallee root which was in Neil's scrap wood heap destined to become a piece of firewood.

The prospective buyer was last seen heading off towards Neil's wood heap to check the story out.

There would appear to be two morals to this story - one is, don't tell me the truth - tell me what I want to hear; the second is that a little bull goes a long way. Take a well deserved pat on the back, George, even though you weren't prepared to give yourself credit for achieving a very difficult task.

## Allen Reay



George also has a tale of his trip to Nelson Bay. He took his small yacht, a laser, and met with a woodturner holidaying there with his three children. The wind was blowing and the waves were high but one by one the turner's children went out for a sail.

The first arrived back with a big grin on his face, wanting more. The second and third enjoyed their trip but were satisfied. Then it was dad's turn! He took one look at the waves and another at the wind, which was building up rapidly, and quickly decided he had other things to do.

**I wonder who that woodturner could have been? Three children and the initials A.R.**

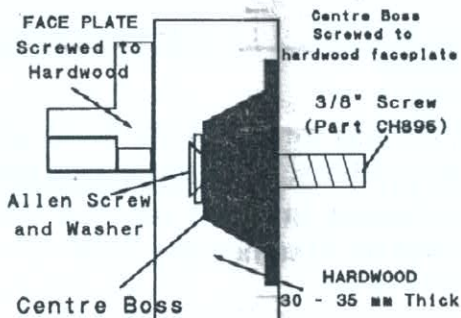
**Do you know anyone who fits that description, Mr. Secretary?**

## SCREW CHUCKS

Since purchasing both the Left and Right Hand Precision Combination Chuck with attachments, In 1983, I have continually been Impressed with the Screw Chuck facility. These screws seem to me to be copies of the one invented by Jerry Glasser of the U.S.A. My only complaint has always been the same complaint levelled at all multifunctional tools, i.e. the time taken to "get set up". Therefore I decided to do something about it and recommend to others wanting to have a screw chuck that is reliable, can be remounted without loss of centering, and will not, except in extreme circumstances, "let go" even when used in end grain. Briefly then, you will need the following hardware (the numbers refer to precision chuck additional accessory numbers as found in various catalogues e.g. Craft Supplies):

- (i) A Face Plate
- (ii) A piece of Hardwood 35mm thick and diameter of face plate
- (iii) Either 3/8" x 1" right hand screw CH 896 OR  
3/8 x 1 1/2" left hand screw CH 898 OR  
5/16" x 7/8" right hand screw CH 897 OR  
ALL THREE if making more than one chuck.
- (iv) Centre Boss, Washer and Allen Screw CH899

The outer flange of the Centre Boss, pictured below, is drilled and counter sunk so that it can be fitted securely to the hardwood.



I'm sure you will find this accessory well worth the money. If you find it a little difficult to visualise from the drawings. George Hatfield has the bits and pieces to make one of his own. He would, I'm sure be happy to show you.

NEIL JONES

## CORRESPONDENCE

### A LETTER TO NEIL JONES

Dear Neil

Your suggested use of a domestic vacuum cleaner as a dust collector for a bandsaw (see Issue 6/87) inspired me to "give it a go".

Result, a system that collects almost 100% of the dust from my bandsaw. It's a beauty.

Because my bandsaw is of Taiwanese manufacture, I had to devise a small hood to cover the bottom guide under the table. Instead of using plastic pipe and elbow, I called on my former trade of sheet metal worker (and thoroughly enjoyed the experience) to fabricate the bits and pieces out of copper sheet.

One other variation to your proposal, I used a "Hoover" and not an "Electrolux", the only difference being that Hoover is in the dictionary and Electrolux is not (fancy that!).

Many thanks, Neil, for your suggestion.

**FRANK BOLLINS**

**It is with sadness we report the death of one  
of the guild members. A relatively new member  
Dudley Penney (member number 121)  
died on 31st January 1988**

**Our condolences to his family**