

Jan/89 MS
SYDNEY WOODTURNERS GUILD INC.
SOUTHERN REGION



By hand and eye

Sydney Woodturners Guild (Inc)

NEXT MEETING 3RD FEBRUARY, 1989

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All Enquiries To:

Frank Bollins - President
Telephone: 53-9401

All Correspondence To:

The Secretary
Woodturners Guild of N.S.W.
4/33 Bernard Road
Padstow Hts. 2211

All Newsletter Articles To:

The Secretary
market "Newsletter"

EDITORIAL COMMENT

By the time you receive this newsletter the festive season will be over and our New Years resolutions made for 1989, including many successful woodturning projects or perhaps finishing off the ones started sometime last year.

This year will certainly bring a change to the guild with the implementation of incorporation and a change of name, although still keeping in sight our objectives:

- a) To promote the craft of hand woodturning.
- b) To bring together individuals interested in woodturning.
- c) To exchange woodturning ideas and knowledge through such avenues as:
 - . Discussions . Seminars . Demonstrations
 - . Recurring Education . Competitions
- d) To encourage interest in woodturning through the display of turned articles at exhibitions, shows, fairs, etc.
- e) To inform members of the availability of turnery timbers and associated items. Where possible to arrange purchase at prices advantageous to members.
- f) To seek and exert a progressive influence on the design and techniques of woodturning.

Also, we will be continually striving to improve our newsletter by catering for the wide and varied interests of our members.

To start the New Year off we will be setting aside space to hear your questions and allow members to provide answers or possible solutions to our turning problems.

We trust you all have an excellent year and many successful hours on the lathes.

THE EDITOR

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Ho! Ho! - Last for the year - what a relief!

I don't really mean that, as preparation of the President's column is both a pleasure and something of a challenge to come up with a subject of general interest. To date, no member has proffered any criticism of past columns - "so far, so good".

Our new Committee has settled down to it's tasks in a very effective manner. The change over of Guild Secretary from Allen Reay to Mannie Burnham has proceeded without any problems with all of the secretarial appendages being transferred - with a sigh of relief from the Reay household to the Burnham dwelling.

The newly established Editorial Committee moved smartly into action and produced a high quality edition close to the time schedule established by the former Committee.

At its last meeting for 1988 the Committee spent a deal of time discussing subjects and Guest Speakers for our 1989 series of meetings.

As announced at the December General Meeting the President's choice for the February meeting will be bowls turned by the Darlow methods which were presented by Mike at our October meeting. This to be followed by a critical comment session by Mike on the results of our efforts.

We will also try to get Mike to give a practical demonstration of his methods and a display of some of his bowl turning gouges and chucks.

At our March meeting we will seek to have Richard Clark of Trend Timbers speak on timber identification, either through smell or timber finger prints. (We will let Richard explain that).

The Committee will strive to have some form of practical demonstration at each of our Guild meetings, as it is felt that this is what a substantial portion of our members desire. Emphasis will be on "hands on" experience where members can be given some practical assistance in mastering some aspect of turning technique.

We also discussed the proposals of a greater member to member assistance. Many of us have band saws, chain saws or table saws capable of segment sawing etc. While others, especially newcomers to woodturning have not yet obtained this equipment.

With that fine cooperative spirit that prevails amongst us "Woodies" we hope that the members who have the above equipment will open the doors of their workshops to those up and coming woodturners who need some assistance in the preparation of timber for turning. Maybe in the next Newsletter we will be able to publish a list of members who will assist in this regard.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN (continued)

How many of you know that the Guild has its own lathe and a complete set of tools? Well, we have. At our meeting we talked of a greater use of this machine and decided that immediately we become an incorporated body, the lathe will be made available for a period of a month to any Guild member who is either new to woodturning and does not own a lathe or wishes to try out a Teknatool lathe before making a purchase.

No doubt there are a number of more experienced members who will be prepared to give some tuition on the basics of woodturning.

Finally, we hope to have a - 'For Sale or Wanted' column in our Newsletter solely for the benefit of our members who either have a piece of equipment or something that they wish to sell or are in need of a specific piece of gear or tool.

So with that I end my column for 1988 with a big 'thank you' to all those members who have participated in the various aspects of Guild activity throughout the year, especially those who produced toys for Salvo-Line.

But, before I close - how about all you people that have not displayed your talents in President's choice knocking up a bowl or two for the February meeting.

YOU CAN DO THIS EASILY BY - KEEPING THE LATHE TURNING!

FRANK BOLLINS

**TREND TIMBERS
"OPEN DAY"
FEB. 18TH - START THE YEAR
RIGHT!**

THE WOODTURNING CENTRE

6 ROGER STREET, BROOKVALE, N.S.W. 2100
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*WE ARE NOW STOCKING EXOTIC
SPECIES OF TIMBER IN BLANKS
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PRESIDENT'S CHOICE: February Meeting

A bowl or bowls using the Darlow methods of eliminating chucking methods in the finished design of the bowl.

* * * *

President's Choice : March Meeting

Something small - something useful - something beautiful.

Bangles - earrings - pendants - pens or whatever.

* * * *

Please note: Change of date for March Meeting.

Our diaries were not functioning too effectively when we fixed the date for the March meeting, it fell on Good Friday.

We brought it forward to Friday 17th March 1989.

See you then.

<u>WE NEED</u>
SHORT ARTICLES, SKETCHES ON YOUR WAY OF MAKING THINGS, ACCESSORIES, HOLDERS, CHUCKS
<u>C O M E O N</u>

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SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING (December 2nd)ON INCORPORATION

After a very good discussion, many points of view raised and looked at, the Meeting resolved to -

- (1) Change the name of our organization from the

"Woodturners Guild of N.S.W." to the
"Sydney Woodturners Guild"

and submit this name to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration. This has now been done with the \$18 fee required.

- (2) Proceed with the Incorporation matter

- (3) Authorise the Secretary, M. Burnham, to be the Public Officer, ie. the contact person, between the Guild and the Commission. Subsequently, an application for \$2M Public Liability Insurance, as required by the Commission has also been sent to the Government Insurance Office (G.I.O.).

MANNIE BURNHAM

REMEMBER
NO JOURNAL MEANS YOU ARE
UNFINANCIAL!

EX-101

SOUTHSIDE REPORT

The last Southside Group meeting was held at the home of Frank and Joan Bollins.

Fifteen members attended and spent a most enjoyable and constructive evening discussing a wide range of woodturning issues.

Bruce Leadbeatter gave an interesting introduction to a new Wattyl product "Speed Clear" an odourless water-based acrylic lacquer, which has a very quick drying time and can be used over or under any other finish for touch up purposes. Brushes can be washed out in soapy water.

Before concluding the Group decided that next year's program would cover more displays of members turnings and types of finishes.

Thanks are extended to Joan for her tasty supper.

Next meeting will be ehld at the home of Clarrie Snell, 18 Howell Avenue, Matraville. 'phone 661-1996 on Tuesday 21st March, 1989.

Feb -

Please ring to advise attendance.

NORTHERN REGIONChange of Date for Next Meeting

Where: Mac Knowles
7 Bryce Street
St. Ives

When: 7:30p.m. Friday 27th January 1989

Telephone: 449-2520

Project: Pair of Finals

HELPING EACH OTHER

Let's face it. That's really why most of us joined the Guild. To learn more, improve our woodturning and pass on what we are able.

And it's a great attitude. So, can we put it into more practice than so far? I think we can.

The Committee's appeal for 3 things point strongly that way. They are:

- 1) To have members submit articles to build a "bank" of material so our Newsletter will never run dry - helping others - views, ideas, differences.
- 2) For members to send short articles with or without sketches on the way they have solved some turning or woodworking problem, be it setting out a job, getting an angle right, making a jig, or template, devising a special holder for turning, a different chuck, finishing off the job (wax, lacquer or whatever) and so on and so on.
- 3) By sending in questions you can be sure that that answer is going to benefit plenty of others.

These things are not beyond any member, new or old, experienced or just starting.

The sum total is that it makes our Guild breathe, to live, to help.

And isn't that how this started?

MANNIE BURNHAM

MAKE THE
QUESTION AND ANSWER
(Q & A FOR SHORT)
WORK!
SUBMIT A QUERY NOW!!

THE DARLOW BOWL
OR
BETTER
AT OUR FEB. 3RD. MEETING
DON'T FORGET!!

WORTH READING

Our Guild has received newsletters from other Woodturning bodies similar to our's. We, of course, reciprocate. These will be in our Library for anyone to read. They're chock-a-block full of beaut ideas!

Fecently received from:

Woodturners Assoc. of West. Aust. (Inc)
 Woodturners of the Hunter (Newcastle) (Inc)
 Woodturners of the Goulburn Valley (Vic) (Inc)
 Tamworth Woodturners (Inc)
 Nth. Shore Woodturners Guild (Inc) (New Zeal)

WE WERE VERY PLEASED WITH

- * The beaut collection of toys presented to the Salvos. There will be some very happy kids after Santa leaves.
- * Jim Newmans cheerful presentation of the "TOP" material, particularly his use of the transparencies on the overhead projector. Maybe we could all learn about that, eh?
- * The very humanness of Mike Gill in his lecture on craft and tree conservation, and his balanced approach. No real knocking, but great concern.
- * The tremendous friendliness of the Oberon people to our group of 'woodies' and wives on their recent visit. It's a must for another visit sometime.

IS OUR FACE RED?

Yes! WE MADE A BLUE

The following letter was sent to non-members (advertisers, other turner organizations etc.) who receive our Newsletter, but is of importance to all our members also.

Dear Friend,

I am writing you in relation to a correction needed in our last Newsletter No. 6/88 on page 11, "Working With Wood Show" - Melbourne by George Hatfield.

Due to our poor editing, a totally erroneous view was given (in part) as to George Hatfield's views.

As can be seen on lines 7, 8 (para. 3) he clearly indicated "a very high standard of work". However, in para. 5 is printed "The quality of the National Woodwork Exhibition was poor". This is not George's view but our error. His original statement was (but not printed by us) "the presentation of exhibits was poor". This, as you can see is an administrative matter and not in any way a reflection of the craftsmen's work.

There is also an obvious contradiction between the two sentences we printed.

We sincerely apologise to George Hatfield, the exhibitors and readers for any inconvenience due to our error.

On behalf of the Editorial Board,

MANNIE BURNHAM
Secretary

GUILD LOGO

How many of us know what our Guild Logo is all about?

For those of you who do not know its origin and the turning processes to make this attractive candle stick, you are about to find out.

George Hatfield has agreed to give a talk and demonstration of turning and sanding processes at our March General Meeting.

Will be most interesting.

AND ANOTHER APOLOGY - W H E W!

Sorry to Jim Dorbis, he is not, as stated in the last Newsletter, our "Auditor". Due to industrial deafness (a woodie's complaint?) it should have been "Editor" or rather "helping the Editor" if need be.

O.K. Jim?

TERRIFIC TIME TO TREND TIMBERS (not bad eh!)

Another "OPEN DAY" at Trend Timbers (see Ad.) coming up on Saturday February 18th.

A day you can't miss - exotic timbers, people hard to get Aussie timbers, people, tools, people, and lots more people.

We've been invited previous to demonstrate and hope to again.

And the Hunter and Central Coast Woodturners will be there. What a gathering!

DUBBO VISIT - IS IT STILL ON?

During August 1988 contact was made with the Dubbo Woodturning and Woodcraft Club suggesting a visit by Guild members to Dubbo.

In our original letters, suggestions were made for a sharing of turning skills and a possible turning timber exchange.

The ultimate response from Dubbo was most enthusiastic and they finally proposed that the visit should take place over the weekend Saturday - Sunday, March 10-11th 1989.

Unfortunately, this is only 2 weeks before Easter and a number of our members who expressed a desire to go to Dubbo have now indicated that because of the nearness to Easter they would prefer a visit sometime in April.

Additionally, the Guild has had to bring its March meeting forward to the 17th March because of Easter.

We will now seek a new date and all those desirous of making the trip will be advised.

For nostalgic reasons I recently visited the Binnaway-Coonabarabran area and extended my trip up to Baradine. Baradine is the headquarters of the Forestry Commission which controls the Pilliga Forest. The Baradine District Forestry Office is a most interesting building. Built in 1937 it utilises many of the native timbers from the area to kine and fit out the various offices and would be of great interest for those with a love of those timbers.

The Pilliga Forest is a vast area of self regenerated Cypress pine and Ironbark and would serve as an interesting comparison to Oberon.

Baradine is just over 500 k's from Sydney, but a visit to the area could become part of the visit to Dubbo.

Other attractions of the area are the Warrumbungle National Park and the Siding Springs Observatory. The return trip is through Gulgong and Mudgee.

Steve Wyatt - District Forester at Baradine was most enthusiastic about an organised visit.

If any Guild member is interested in such a visit, would you please let me know.

FRANK BOLLINS

FORUM

Forest Talk

Our FORUM series dealing with forestry and conservation has been primarily designed to encourage a wider and hopefully better informed debate on these issues (at least so far as woodworkers are concerned). There is reason to believe that this is occurring. Although we have not yet received responses suitable for publication from any of the official and otherwise interested parties to which copies of the magazine have been forwarded, we have had several phone calls and brief but encouraging letters.

More importantly, from our point of view, we have seen evidence that professional and recreational woodworkers are beginning to discuss the subject in greater depth. What they say and whether we all agree with what is said, seems to us less important than the fact that the subject is being discussed and we are therefore not leaving it to others to make decisions that affect our future. A recent Newsletter of the Woodturners Guild of NSW remarks, for example, that they have invited Michael Gill to speak at their December meeting. Michael, a gifted woodcraftsman, holds passionate views about forests and conservation as this recent letter from him shows:

"If we chase consensus we will chase our tails until we implode. If the Woodcraft Guild of Australia is to be a force for creative change we must know how to identify our problems. Our biggest stumbling block is fear. If we get sticky hands at the mention of that four-letter word 'politics', or if we convince ourselves we don't have the intelligence or the expertise to tackle this issue, let's go back to our dovetails and keep quiet."

"The Conference Resolution that began all this requests that the Minister for Forests support us. Your Guild will be lobbying State and Federal Governments. Politics."

"You don't need a Ph.D. in Earth Sciences to see that Australian forestry is in trouble. Mr N Jones (The Australian Woodworker — July/Aug. 88) of Nelson Bay asks us to put our faith in 'the small band of dedicated and highly skilled foresters whose duty is to manage and preserve our forests now, and for the long-term future'. Why are we worrying then? If everything's been under control since 1916, why is this issue one of our most seething controversies? Has not bad management forced our hand? Why are so many independent doctors of eminence giving opposing second opinions?"

"Foresters are certainly dedicated and skilled but they are locked into a bureaucracy, employees of what are, in essence, corporations with an eye on the bottom line. They are not the only expert professionals in this field, but they need our help, support and guidance."

"In my view, WASTE is the bane of all fine woodworkers. Are you aware that the vast majority of Queensland's rainforest timbers are consumed by builders for framing, scantling and concrete form-ply? (Qld. Forestry Dept. and the Bureau of Statistics put it at 70% building/30% decorative timber and veneers) This is my idea of waste. They have reported that 60% of the logs end up as mill waste — sawdust and offcuts which are burned. Direct industry sources put that figure as high as 75%. With careful, inexpensive milling processes, this figure can be as low as 30%. (Dr Peter Hale, ACF Seminar, 1987.)"

"Do you see the real problem? Input from us can change those figures radically. If we can't convince builders that there are more suitable alternatives, then we must assist those who can. We don't always require long, clear lengths, docked for studs and rafters. Fine woodworkers can utilise (and often prefer) what is now wasted. Mill waste is also minimised when dealing with plantation trees that are not hollow, malformed or over-mature as they often are in primary forest."

"Woodchipping for pulp and paper is the root of our most scandalous waste problem. Mark Griffin (A.W. July/Aug. p.8) of Tallebudgera sees the larger dilemma very clearly. Clear-felling (standard woodchip procedure) is not the sweet fairy tale the Forestry Commission would have us believe. (See Mr. Jones of Nelson Bay again.)"

"Do woodworkers understand the actualities of the process? The experience of William Bostock around Eden (A.W. July/Aug. p.9) is sobering and enlightening. He has seen the reality. The fallers go in with chainsaw and bulldozer and raze everything standing. Oops! They accidentally split and mash much of the good veneer and saw logs, the fine furniture woods. It is not always accidental — they want pulp-wood after all. The big stuff is dragged out (usually Eucalyptus) and millions of tonnes p.a. of mature 'minor species' and saplings are left in a broken, impenetrable tangle on the floor of the coupe. It is then deliberately set alight and thoroughly burnt out. This is to give the delicate, exposed soil a cheap burst of ash fertiliser and to admit light. It also, incidentally, finishes off any living organism that escaped the falling."

"Goodbye fauna and goodbye diversity of tree species. Only the gums return, eventually. The odd one, left standing here and there, if it survives the firing, windburn and sunburn, is supposed to seed the area and house the wildlife. Black humour. Replanting (seedlings) is impossible in the mess. Occasionally, the coupe is aerially seeded (Eucs only) but it is normally left to 'regenerate'."

"Woodchippers have admitted publicly that they prefer large, old growth Eucalypts of building grade for making newsprint. Waste is not a strong enough word."

"Tony de Lara, the small sawmillers and the contract tree-fellers of Tasmania painted a harrowing picture of this madness on ABC's 'Earthworm' programme (Radio 2BL, July 27). Talk to the woodies who have climbed in amongst the charred wreckage, black as coal miners, and seen the beautiful logs of Celery Top Pine, Blackwood, Myrtle, Musk and Sassafras that lie in ruins. The machinery necessary to thin the 100% gum regeneration cannot get into this log dump and so the re-growth develops into a dense potential fire-bomb."

"Plantations on reclaimed farmland don't present such problems. To understand the realities of forestry practice we must search well beyond the fairy tales."

Finally, one vital fact that all woodworkers must understand and accept if we are to be taken seriously: virgin rainforest cannot be logged without damaging it irreparably. This truth really hurts. We would all love to believe it's possible as with other types of forest but if we want credibility we must divorce reality from fantasy. Don't take my word for it (or that of the Forestry Commissions, either) read some of the sur-

prising amount of research already conducted. Enquire of the universities, the herbaria, the museums, the Rainforest Information Centre (Lismore), the CSIRO's Tropical Forest Research Centre (Atherton) and believe them when they concur that untouched rainforest in its tiny remnants must be locked up for us all and for those who follow us.

"Large, controlled harvests are still possible into the future from forests already logged. We have to apportion that supply fairly. Are we so desperate, so impoverished that we can't stop taking now and begin producing?"

"If you believe a wilderness is no more than a stand of trees, the soundest studies won't move you an inch."

Rodney Hayward, a professional woodworker from Bundanoon (NSW) offers comments on another aspect of the debate:

"Desensitised though we are, wood is more than just a material in short supply. The complementarity of chosen wood and the conception of the piece is a subtle one. When it works, the whole feels right — it sort of 'takes-off'. Graphically, you can imagine a sculptor who is sensitive to different kinds of stone; what marble demands and will carry is quite different to that of, say, sandstone.

"At the 1988 Beaver Galleries Award exhibition in Canberra, I was delighted to find Laurie Oliver's interpretation of James Krenov's chess table. It was a finely worked and beautiful piece yet, without criticism, I wondered how Jim would have made this classic in Queensland Maple. The piece in the masculine but quietly authoritative dourness has a different feel. Queensland maple is perhaps just not masculine enough to carry fully what was intended in the original.

"In the timber resource debate through this column, the need for a diversity of fine timbers has not been stressed. While Australian timbers as such do offer a rich palette of diversity, there are few truly fine cabinet timbers. Could not some consideration be given to areas of afforestation with classic exotic tropical and temperate hardwood species? Designers and makers may be challenged by indigenous alternate and plantation species, but such will limit the maturation of fine woodwork in Australia.

"At the moment, the public's perception of what constitutes fine woodwork seems to often stop at the material. This conclusion may be exploited and the material made more important than the whole. Poor proportions, things that have got away a little, but wow, look at the wood!

"The studied primitivism of furniture whose broad surfaces are from thick flitches often still carrying their waney edges, is especially bothersome. Although perceived as embodying something of the indigenous character, in the extravagant use of often fine timbers, such pieces cannot be justified today. It would be hard to defend such a piece against the accusation of overt consumption.

"Australian woods may find acceptance as curious but, significant sales of furniture and art in Japan and the USA (Mark Griffin, Aust. Wood. #20, p.8) could be problematical. Quality would have to be the first criterion if there was to be interest beyond a transient response to novelty. Quality and a cultural sensitivity was stressed by Professor Yoshio Akioka at the 2nd National Wood Conference in Adelaide (1985). A cultural clash with the U.S.A. would be less likely, yet there could be other problems.

"We can find here now in Australia imported workman-like furniture — and items of woodware — being retailed at prices equal to or less than their Australian material value. We must pay the true cost of a tree (Mark Griffin Aust. Wood. #20 p.8), but to whom? The answer is obvious, yet with the present market structure there is often little relationship between the beginning and the conclusion of the price chain. High domestic material prices could see Australian woodworkers not exporting, but being pressed by diverse, low cost imports as countries like Indonesia (Aust. Wood. #20 p.9) and even Fiji, to set up to gain value-added exports from their natural resources.

"Life won't meant to be easy."

Rodney's comment that we "must pay the true cost of a tree, but to whom?" reminded us of an item which appeared in one of the woodworking group's newsletters a few months ago.

Entitled "Paper is far too cheap", the item was re-printed from another publication. The title was supported by an "estimate" of the amount of copy and computer paper consumed in Australia and a proposal to impose a "healthy" import tax of 20% to lift the price of this paper above "casual consumption", using the money so raised to "foster National tree-planting on the grandest scales that you can possibly imagine."

Those who have been following this debate will be aware that *The Australian Woodworker* tries to avoid editorial comment that might be construed as supporting one or other of the many points of view presented in these columns. We believe that any such comment would be counter-productive and potentially damaging to the debate. In the present instance, however, we cannot refrain from commenting that the item mentioned above ignores the fact that there is currently a 20% import duty on the type of paper nominated (it is due to fall to 15% on Jan. 1, 1989). To our knowledge there has been no suggestion that the revenues raised by this duty will ever be applied directly to re-afforestation.

Since, as publishers, we admit to a vested interest in the price of paper in Australia, it would obviously be wrong for us to pursue this subject any further. Yet we may remark that a study of the many problems that this tax causes in the several industries involved should give pause to anyone who believes that there are simple political solutions to complex economic and social problems such as those of forestry and timber usage.

On a personal level, however, solutions may be easier to find, as Michael Hills suggests:

"Thank you for allowing us to read the positive directions in which Mr R Smith of Queensland is pointing us.

"In Kent, England (the country of my birth), it used to be said that a farmer planted a cherry orchard for his son not for himself. This consideration for the generations that follow us is not just leaving a material legacy but ensuring that some lasting environmental beauty remains on Earth.

"Perhaps woodworking groups around the country could follow Mr Smith's example by planting some cabinet timbers on either private or public land. I think the forester has been much maligned in recent times for the forester loves his trees as much as anyone and would, I am certain, offer every assistance to those wishing to plant young trees.

"Let us not forget the Northern hemisphere hardwoods which are remarkably tolerant to our dry summers and mature quicker than in their native environment (evidenced in the Melbourne city parks by the magnificent elms that are said to be the finest living specimens).

"I exhort all people to plant an acorn, a walnut or whatever they choose — but at least let us try to reverse the trend of diminishing forests. Don't wait for the politicians to give you a tax incentive."

GUILD VISIT TO OBERON

The recent visit to Oberon by a party of Guild members and wives (about 20) was a great success due largely to the careful preparation by our president, Frank Bollins, and secretary, Mannie Burnham. After gathering at the Titania motel on the Sunday afternoon, most did a tour of the district, had a look at the Fish River dam and so on until we all assembled in the motel dining room for dinner which was voted by everybody as a really great meal. As guests we had two officers of the Forestry Commission who gave an interesting talk on the Commission's philosophy and practices in the management of the radiata pine forests under their control.

Next morning we all set off under the leadership of Mark (the Commission's officer) to see, in the Fendran State Forest, the operations he had told us about the evening before. A barbecue lunch was enjoyed by all at one of the Commission's camps. Then followed a demonstration by the Commission's Ian Hanrahan on the handling and maintenance of chain saws. He was obviously highly experienced in this field and answered all questions thrown at him. Then, to demonstrate his expertise he attacked some huge slabs of blackwood which he had rescued from a windrow of timber ready for burning. He made various cuts across the slabs under the direction of the members with the result that the ground became littered with sizable chunks of lovely figured timber.

In order to tidy up the mess the members generously volunteered to load the pieces into their cars with the result that in no time the area was all cleared up again. We should see lots of attractive pieces in blackwood at forthcoming guild meetings.

In the afternoon we paid a visit to the local sawmill to see the five saw-logs reduced to useable sizes to supply the building and furniture industries. The size of the huge bandsaws and the amount of mechanical handling equipment was very impressive.

The following morning we were shown through the chip board factory where the pine logs too small for the sawmill were reduced to chips, then flakes, dried, mixed with glue, spread into sheets, then pressed, cut to size, sanded to thickness and packed for despatch. Here again the amount of automation was impressive.

Altogether a most successful and interesting trip and our thanks go to Frank and Mannie for their efforts to ensure its success.

Tom Bartie.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

THE SCIENTIFIC NAME OF SOME OF OUR POPULAR TREES

(Courtesy of N.S.W. Forestry Commission)

Jarraah	<i>Eucalyptus marginata</i>
Mountain ash	<i>Eucalyptus regnans</i>
Tasmanian oak	<i>Eucalyptus delagatensis</i>
	<i>Euc. obliqua</i> & <i>Euc. regnans</i>
Radiata pine	<i>Pinus radiata</i>
Eucalypts	<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.
Balckbutt	<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i>
Flooded gum	<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i>
Spotted gum	<i>Eucalyptus maculata</i>
Tallowwood	<i>Eucalyptus microcorys</i>
Celery-top pine	<i>Phyllocladus asplenifolius</i>
Oregon	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>
(Canadian western red cedar	<i>Thuja plicata</i>
Red stringybark	<i>Eucalyptus macrorhyncha</i>
White beech	<i>Gmelina leichhardtii</i>
Red cedar	<i>Toona australis</i>
Silver birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>
Huon pine	<i>Dacrydium franklinii</i>
Silver ash	<i>Flindersia schottiana</i>
King William pine	<i>Athrotaxis selaginoides</i>
Rose mahogany	<i>Dysoxylum fraserianum</i>
Australian teak	<i>Flindersia australis</i>
Tea-tree	<i>Leptospermum</i> spp.
Brush-box	<i>Lephostemon confertus</i>
Comphor laurel	<i>Connamomum camphora</i>
Mulberry	<i>Morus</i> spp.
Plum	<i>Prunus domestica</i>
Apricot	<i>Prunus mume</i>

GLUING PROBLEMS

Timbers such as Huon Pine, Teak and Blackwood can be difficult to glue satisfactorily, particularly with a PVA glue.

You may successfully glue the above timbers by firstly swabbing the joint liberally with metholated spirits allowing this to dry then proceed to glue with the PVA glue.

A. TURNER

SLIP AND OIL STONE CARE

Rather than getting out the oil can each time you require to use the slip or oil stone why not obtain a shallow lidded tin container such as biscuits or sweets sometime come in, cut a piece of 1/2" or so foam to the shape of the container base, place this in the container then add the oil or oil mix.

You then have a dust free container to keep the stones in. Each time you use them, all you have to do is press them into the oil soaked foam and the surface will be coated with the oil. A mixture of Neatsfoot oil and Kerosene, 50% each, is a satisfactory mix.

A. TURNER

CURVED SURFACE COMPASS

A simple method of marking a circle for bandsawing a bowl blank on the curved surface of a log or similar rough surface.

PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

It's relatively easy to mark a circle with a conventional compass on the flat surface of a half log BUT, to cut out the blank with a bandsaw is not so easy as the log has to be supported securely on this curved surface (requiring quite a fiddle, especially if the bandsaw table is small) to prevent the saw jamming and stalling the electric motor. After repeated failures resulting in twisted saw blades, sawing through nails, frustrated cursing, (like damn and blast, George's favourites) it seemed an obvious solution if we could mark the circle on the curved surface allowing the half log to be ideally supported on the flat surface on the bandsaw table. The solution proposed here is based on a principle we used in the marine field for measuring at various radii the blade pitch on a marine screw propeller.

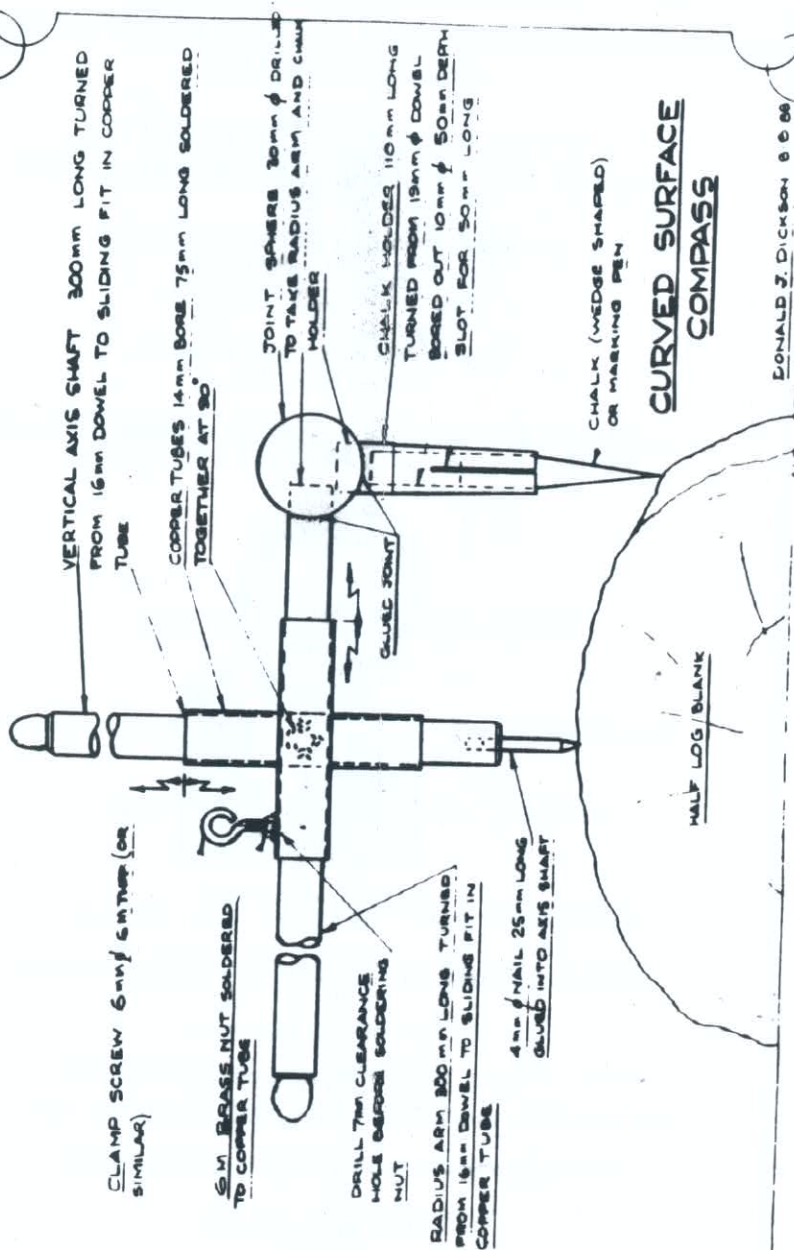
COMPASS DESCRIPTION

Basically, it consists of a vertical axis shaft, which is the axis of the compass, and a horizontal radius arm holding the marking chalk, or similar marking device. This arm is free to slide up and down the vertical axis shaft. The radius arm is adjusted to a radius equal to the half width of the log and secured by means of the clamp screw. In marking the circle it was found easier to always mark downhill from the high point of the log to the low point.

Quod Erat Demonstrandum

(Apologies to Euclid)

DONALD J. DICKSON



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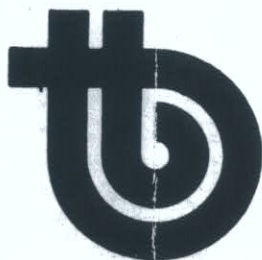
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