



By hand and eye

Sydney Woodturners Guild (Inc)

NEWSLETTER 3/90

JUNE 1990

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

While writing up the item listing the publication for our library that have been donated by the Forestry Commission I reflected on our developing association with the Commission which goes back to 1984.

Since then we have had six visits to various regions, a visit to the Technology Centre and a guest speaker at a General meeting. Some Guild members also have been fortunate enough to receive copies of the "Woodturner" a Forestry Commission publication.

Needless to say our relationship has been a most valuable one for our members. On each of our country visits we have been taken into the forest under the guidance of Commission Foresters and Rangers.

Without exception all of these people have proved to be exceptionally knowledgeable on their subjects - the timber resources and the flora and fauna of the various areas.

Not only were they knowledgeable of their subject but they all were very impressive as far as dedication to the cause of protecting our natural environment.

Their explanations of the five basic multi-purpose goals of the Forestry Commission in the use of land, wool, water, recreation, grazing and wildlife habitat, has, I think enabled all of our Guild members and wives and friends to more clearly understand and appreciate the comprehensive range of Forestry Commission activity.

However, despite their dedication and enthusiasm for a more economic and rational use of our timber resources especially our hardwood and rainforest reserves, forces from within the bureaucratic top structure of the Commission itself and the more aggressive mill operators and political influences from Governments are making their task ever so much more difficult.

Forest, trees and milled timber are an inseparable part of our present life and of future generations to come.

Trees and forests are a vital part of the environment and as a consequence must be effectively husbanded in their usage.

Milled timber in its varied forms are an essential part of our every day existence. True, there are a growing number of substitutes, but it should be recognised that these substitutes demand the extraction of natural resources and can be equally dangerous environmentally as the wholesale destruction of our forests.

So, the whole issue gets down to a more rational and economic use of our present and future timber resources.

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE

June meeting - A small turned vase of weed pot.

August meeting - A bowl of any size with chucking methods eliminated.

PROPOSED MELBOURNE VISIT

The last Guild meeting referred to the prospects of an organised group of Guild members travelling to Melbourne to visit the 1990 Timber and Working with Wood Exhibition over the period between Thursday 18th to Sunday 21st October. (Details given elsewhere in this Newsletter).

State Rail - Melbourne return \$186.00 2nd class.
Group bookings of 12 or more \$128.00
Pensioner on Pensioner Voucher \$72.20
1st class and \$36.20 2nd class.

Interstate Bus Services (overnight trip)
Melbourne return \$80.95
Group booking of 10 or more \$72.00

Pioneer Coach Batman Motel (Group booking)
3 nights accommodation and return fare
\$218.00 - no meals.
Coach only \$104.00 return fare (accommodation works out at \$38.00 per night twin share).

Flag Motel Elizabeth Tower Motel
Room only twin share \$48.00 per person.
Twin share - dinner - bed and breakfast
\$76.00 per person.

A sheet for names of those interested in such a trip will be available at the next Guild meeting.

A meeting of all those interested will be convened and a committee appointed to handle all of the necessary bookings etc.

SYDNEY WOODTURNERS GUILD INC.

"To promote the craft of hand woodturning"

COMMITTEE 1989-1990.

<u>President:</u>	Frank Bollins	539401
<u>Vice-President:</u>	Arthur Ball	4773683
<u>Secretary:</u>	Mannie Burnham	7734924
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Tom Bartie	945598

Committee Members:

Ted Edwards	6216581
Bruce Leadbeatter	785395
Stuart Dednam	5250286
(Southern Region)	

<u>Editor:</u>	David Hipsley	4517505
<u>Librarian:</u>	Simon Prien	6374494

Next General Meeting

Friday 15th June at Woodturning Section
5.30 p.m. Sydney Technical College
Bijou Lane
ULTIMO (Behind Her Majesty's
Theatre).

Laurens Otto - professional carver on
"Making good turnings better"
- it's easy
- You'll enjoy this added approach.

All correspondence to The Secretary
4/33 Bernard Road
PADSTOW HEIGHTS 2211

All Contributions to the Newsletter to

The Editor
10 Curragundi Avenue
BELROSE 2085

Contributions to Newsletter

- * All articles, sketches, views welcomed.
- * Maximum size of written material:
One printed page (about 400-450 words).
- * Yes, we can reduce drawings.
- * Views expressed by contributors not necessarily
those of the Guild.

OUR BIG MOMENT IN SYDNEY!!

DARLING HARBOUR HOME SHOW AGAIN.

Our Guild has been asked to participate again in the
3rd AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL HOME SHOW '90
at Sydney Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour
from
Saturday, 18th August - Sunday, 26th August.

We will be given floor space free of charge but must
supply our own equipment etc.

We can display, demonstrate.

We must man the stand all the time the show is on.

SO

WE REQUIRE MEMBERS TO -

- (1) Man the stand (roster basis)
- (2) Demonstrate on the lathe (roster)
- (3) Supply items for display (see below)

The times the Show is on are

Sat.	Aug.	18	10.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m.
Sun.	"	19	10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.
Mon.	"	20	12.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m.
Tues.	"	21	12.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m.
Wed.	"	22	12.00 a.m. - "
Thurs.	"	23	12.00 a.m. - "
Fri.	"	24	12.00 a.m. - "
Sat.	"	25	12.00 a.m. - "
Sun.	"	26	10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Please contact the Secretary, Mannie, (02)7734924
as soon as possible with your proposal of assistance.

Display Items:

Attach to items a small sticker or card etc with

- (1) Your name
 - (2) Your phone number
 - (3) The timber type
 - (4) The finish.
-

"MOBIL CER M"

For those who have had trouble purchasing "Mobil Cer M".
One of our members Bert Sluiter has traced down a supply.

It is:-

FOSROC (AUSTRALIA)
7 Stuart Street
PADSTOW.

Phone: 774 2211.

Prices are as follows:-

In 20 litre cans -	1 - 4 cans =	\$39.50 per can
	5 - 9 cans =	\$34.50 per can
	10+ =	\$31.60 per can.

These prices are all plus 20% Sales Tax and there is plenty
in stock.

TED EDWARDS.

FORESTRY COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

During a visit to Pat Brogan - Forestry Commission Education
Officer I was presented with the following Forestry Commission
publications:

- * Annual Report 1986 - 1987
- * Forest types in N.S.W.
- * The Glovebox guide to 4 Wheel Driving
- * Forestry Commission Publications catalogue
- * Brochure - The Henry Kendall Collection of Fine Wood
Arts and Crafts
- * Chain Saw Operator's Handbook
- * Forest Giants (Timbergetting in N.S.W. Forests 1800-1950
by Helen Hannah)
- * Eucalypts - A Guide (by Pat Brogan)
- * Understanding Forests K-2 and
Understanding Forests 3-4 (Both these booklets contain
activity sheets for Primary Schools.

All of these publications are now available from the Guild
Library.

FRANK BOLLINS.

ROYAL EASTER SHOW 1990
WOODTURNING DISPLAY - ART & CRAFT SECTION.

There is no doubt that our Show is the biggest regular entertainer we have with such a huge variety of displays, unsurpassed in the world. Not the least is the army of volunteers who man it plus of course, the paid staff.

The Art and Craft Pavilion is also "chock-a-block" with the viewing public. And that's where woodturning is.

This year's display had 26 items, covering a good variety very well done. There were 15 contributors, of whom 6 were from our Guild, some for the first time. This does not very adequately portray the fact we have over 160 members, does it? I wonder why? For as everyone who has been to any meeting, central or regional of our Guild knows, there are dozens, scores of beaut turned objects displayed, well able to be more publicly displayed, as at the Show.

Why am I raising this matter? Well, I believe that woodturning is a terrific hobby, and that our Guild is doing a real job in helping promote it. I also believe that there are lots of people "out there" who would like to see a lot more quality woodturning and would be encouraged to even participate in this activity as you and I are doing, if they could see there is a large group of people already doing just that. Think about it.

Now for a few more details. Our Guild members, the whole six of them, carried off 10 of the 12 awards. And many of you have seen their work.

Entry forms are normally available in about October from either the Show or our secretary. You only need to fill in what you intend to do and send the form plus a small fee (about \$3) and have to about two weeks before the next show (1991) to make it.

The three classes are as follows:

- * Spindle turning, one article or a pair the major component of the work to govern class entry.
- * Face plate and/or chucking, one article or a pair, the major component to govern the class entry.
- * Mixed turning, one article or a pair, the major component etc.

Not hard really.

Have a go!

MANNIE BURNHAM.

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NORTHERN REGION

We held a meeting at the home of Bernard and Vera Makewell on 11th May.

Only four people attended but we had a lot of interesting things to talk about, and we even tried bead turning using the long point of the chisel - no accidents either!

The next meeting will be at Tom Bartie's home on 13th July.

Tom's address is

29 Woolgoolda Street
BALGOWLAH 2093.

Ph. 945598.

Please ring our host if attending.

BERNARD MAKEWELL.



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SOUTHERN REGION REPORT

I know I speak for all those who attended, in expressing much gratitude and many thanks to John and Elaine Mildwater for making their home and workshop available for the "Hands-on" day held on 19th May.

The weather was once again kind to us, being nice and sunny, albeit a little chilly out of the sun, and the thirty-one members (three new) and visitors thoroughly enjoyed the day-long coffee and "bickies" and the super "barbie" cooking of their grandsons Robert and Nigel - many thanks, boys for a job well done! and thank you again, Elaine!!

The old reliables Bruce, Mannie, Clarrie and Joe spent many hours demonstrating turning and grinding tools. Bowl turning and biro pens were the main items of interest.

The big bonus on the day was the day-long "demo" on turning methods and tools by Bob Davies from Victoria. Bob is the Australian rep. for wood-turning tools manufactured by P & N the well-known manufacturers of precision engineering tools, who are now concentrating on developing "top of the range" tools and accessories for woodturning.

The usual lunch-time meetings held on these "hands-on" days was chaired by convenor Stuart Dednam, the main topic, after apologies on behalf of President Frank Bollins and Jack Hungerford, both on holidays, was a reminder by Mannie Burnham of the necessity to start thinking of volunteering to man the display stand at the coming "Home Show" at Darling Harbour.

John Mildwater proposed that the project for the next "hands-on" day be a bowl with the bark left on the rim - "Leady" proffered a warning to any over-enthusiastic beginner to beware of the sharp edges when turning out the inside of the bowl.

A very pleasant surprise, late in the afternoon, was the "dropping-in" of a woodturner visitor from Bendigo, Victoria, John Chapman who kindly brought along a most interesting coffee tray and stand, made from blackwood and a beautiful very fine bowl out of Huon Pine. A pity many of our members had already left for home and missed out on seeing these two beautiful items.

Our visitors were warmly welcomed by Southern Region Convenor Stuart Dednam and Guild Secretary Mannie Burnham and presented with one of our new shoulder-patches and some literature pertaining to our Sydney Guild, and in return a cordial invitation was extended to any of our members who may be down that way, to please call in and make yourself known to the Bendigo Guild. Our visitors were delighted with gifts from John Mildwater of some large pieces of camphor laurel which is not available down Bendigo way. Quite a few of our members took some of the other varieties of timber which were also available free.

The last of the stragglers left about 4.30 p.m. leaving John and family to clean up all the mess. Shame on you, turners!

* Next "hands-on day will be held at Joe Defina's-14th July.
Don't forget the courtesy call if you are going!

From my reading there are many ways of doing this, and the following points are but a few ways of doing just that.

- + Instead of clear-felling for wood chip manufacture a much greater use of waste timber from the forest floor which is at present burnt, be utilised for wood chip and paper manufacture.

- + A more effective policing of extracted timber prior to chipping to ensure that every log is examined to determine if it is of saw-log quality and if so it should be diverted for flitching and value added usage.

- + The curtailment of the use of quality hardwoods for roof tile battens, paling fences, pallets and crates by utilising waste from large mills and the use of treated pine as a substitute.

- + An expansion in the field of research into the utilisation of timbers other than rainforest timbers in the manufacture of plywood and veneers.

- + More research into the establishment of hardwood plantations to ensure the successful implementation of the sustainable growth policy of the Forestry Commission.

The practical application of these and other policies will enable the highly skilled and dedicated section of the Forestry Commission that I have mentioned to proceed, free from outside pressures of the large mill owners, the more emotional section of the conservationists movement and the timber workers themselves with the task of developing a rational use and conservation of our State wide timber resources.

In the meantime
keep the lathes turning.

FRANK BOLLINS.

THE WOODTURNING CENTRE

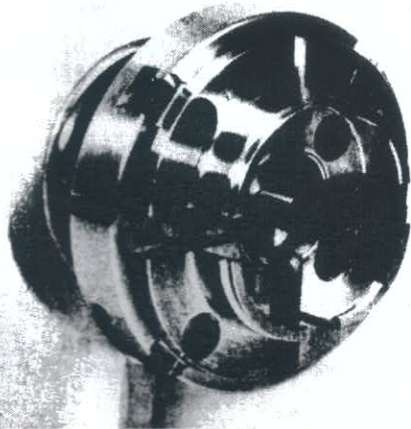
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BITS & PIECES

Received newsletters from other "woodie" groups

- Central Coast Woodturners
- Hunter Valley
- Tamworth
- New Zealand
- Dubbo
- Goulburn Valley
- Bega

Also latest edition American "Fine Woodworking".
Tanner Eng. N.Z, on their lathe products.

Next meeting June 15th will be our last at Sydney Technical College after 7 years.
The August meeting will be at new college at Lidcombe.
Details next newsletter.

Woodturners of the Hunter Co-op Ltd.
(formerly Woodturners of Hunter Valley Inc.)
advise us of their Workshop 21st July 8.00 a.m.- 5.00 p.m.
Four sessions run simultaneously, each led by experienced
"woodies", George Hatfield, Scott Graham, Neil Scobie,
David Lindsay, Bob Davies.
Contact Secretary, David Ingles, phone 049 - 467200 (Newc)
for details. Cost \$20, includes lunch.



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SILICONE RUBBER POWER ABRASIVE PADS FOR WOODTURNING

The following method describes a cheap and simple way to construct power abrasive pads for woodturning or other uses, from silicone rubber.

Materials

- 1 tube silicone rubber (roofing)
- 1 empty silicone rubber tube
- 1 50mm diameter velcro disc
- 1 1½ x 5/16 gutter bolt
- 1 small piece of PVC cut from 100mm pipe
- Araldite adhesive

Method

1. Cut required number from PVC pipe, 20 x 20mm squares, drilling in each centre a hole for the gutter bolt.
2. Fit a gutter bolt through the PVC using Araldite between the head and nut of the bolt and the PVC. (see Fig. 1)
3. Cut the empty silicone rubber tube into 20mm rings.
4. Place velcro with face hooks down. Place silicone rubber tube ring over velcro, and half fill with silicone rubber. Then place in the drive bolt made in Step 2, centrally. Fill the remainder of the ring with silicone rubber, smoothing the surface (saliva is best!). (see Fig. 2)
5. After curing time of 10 days remove silicone rubber tube ring.

When velcro is worn out, fit in a new velcro pad as shown, allowing 24 hours for silicone to cure. (see Fig. 3)

This process may be repeated 3 times, before needing to peel back to the first velcro layer.

A tube of silicone rubber makes 7 pads and the cost per pad is approximately \$1.50, a fraction of the usual commercial cost.

RUSSELL HOFFMAN

Turner from the Apple Isle kindly sent us this material.

Fig. 1

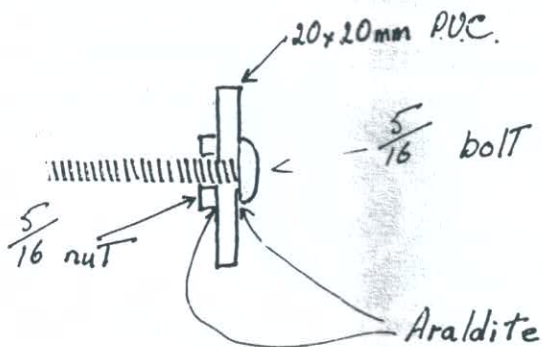


Fig. 2

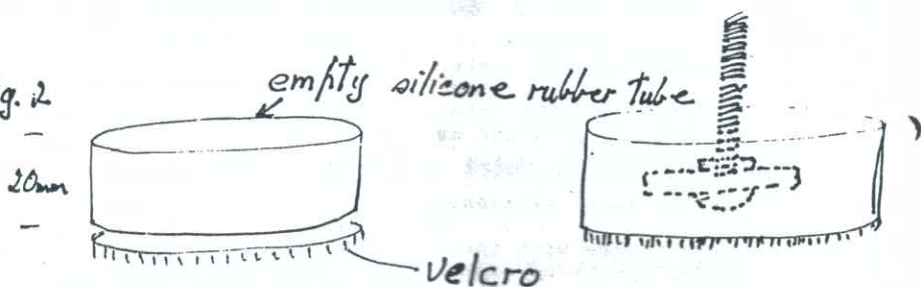
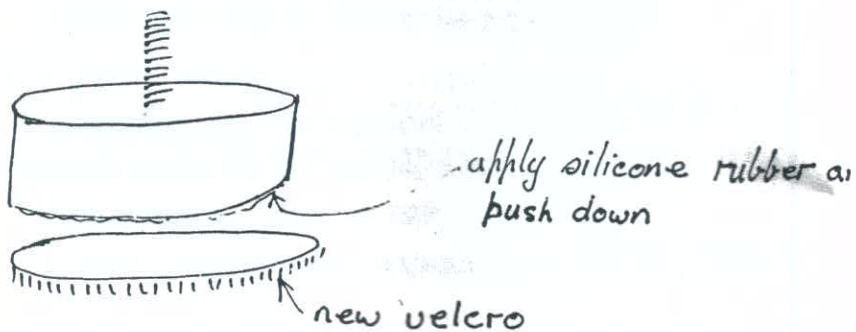


Fig. 3



Silicone Rubber Power Abrasive Pads for Wood Turning

The following method describes a cheap and simple way to construct power abrasive pads for wood turning or other uses, from silicone rubber.

Materials

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- 1 empty silicone rubber tube
- 1 50mm diameter velcro disc
- 1 1½x5/16 gutter bolt
- 1 small piece of PVC cut from 100mm pipe
- Araldite adhesive

Method

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2. Fit a gutter bolt through the PVC using Araldite between the head and nut of the bolt and the PVC. *Fig. 1*
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5. After curing time of 10 days remove silicone rubber tube ring.

When velcro is worn out, fit in a new velcro pad as shown, allowing 24 hours for silicone to cure. *Fig. 3*

This process may be repeated 3 times, before needing to peel back to the first velcro layer.

A tube of silicone rubber makes 7 pads and the cost per pad is approximately \$1.50, a fraction of the usual commercial cost.

Russell Hoffman's
(Turner from the Apple Isle
Kindly sent us this material)

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THE TIMBER & WORKING WITH WOOD SHOW
ROYAL EXHIBITION BUILDING, MELBOURNE.

-Thursday, 18th to Sunday 21st October.

As the name indicates this show covers practically every aspect of building, furniture, manufacturing, accessories, design, literature, forestry, etc that is available today, plus many demonstrations on cabinet making, marquetry, woodturning, carving, power tools.

There is a Woodwork Exhibition, displaying submitted work from nine categories covering furniture, woodturning, sculpture, joinery, musical instruments, carving. Those wishing to submit an item please contact
Riddell Exhibition Promotions P/L
135-141 Burnley Street
RICHMOND. 3121
Victoria. (ph. 03-4296088)

Our April General meeting recommended that our committee examine the possibility of a bus/accommodation package for the show so a group can go together. (see other article).

SO WE WENT TO NAROOMA

Saturday, 31st of March saw a contingent of woodturners descending on the Highway Motel, Narooma. Forty five people in all finally sat down to an enjoyable meal followed by a very interesting talk by John Sanders of the Forestry Commission, Narooma. His talk only lightly touched on the activities and problems of running a forest. It would seem the aim of the Commission is a cyclic thirty years allowing for a sustained yield of timber. Mostly the forests provide hardwoods - Spotted Gum, Yellow Stringybark and Blackbutt. The talk was informative and was carried over to the next morning when a visit to a forest was arranged.

A cavalcade of all types of vehicles headed up the Mitchell's Ridge Road, nearly as impressive as Rommel's Afrika Corps and at least as much dust. A short talk at a regeneration site then on to a Pitprop and Pole operation where the forest is thinned out leaving room for the remaining trees to develop into mill logs. Onward ever onward to a mill log site, a devastated site, which, we were assured, would show very little evidence of this activity in the twelve months after regeneration takes place. It was here that John Sanders was able to get some Woollybutt chunks just right for woodturners and some very good Spotted Gum Burls. It will be interesting to see what goodies are made from these pieces.

We finally arrived at Don Lees at Mogo and had the traditional Bar-B-Q followed by a look-see at Don's workshop and a few products. Richard Raffan was there and really gave a good demonstration and the use of some newish tools especially generated for bowl turning.

Back again to Narooma, tired, dusty but satisfied. Another good meal and bed as we were up again early in the morning.

Monday and John Sanders had organised to visit the Lawler Creek Sawmill, managed by Bruce Davis, who had rebuilt the mill after it was burnt down in September 1989. The mill was nearly fully automated with every part of the log handled, down to the last flitch. With this automation this mill can achieve up to 70% recovery from each log. Some or most mills only achieve 40% recovery. The high rate of recovery is achieved by determining the marketing needs and serving the demand.

A very hectic weekend full of activity and information. Those that were unable to come really missed something. A weekend only successful because of the untiring work of our President Frank Bollins and a few very persistent helpers, an enthusiastic Forester John Sanders, friendly companions, Don Lees and Richard Raffan and the wives of all those men.

LINDSAY PAISH

Outer and Blue Mountains Region.

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