

# BY HAND & EYE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SYDNEY WOODTURNERS GUILD INC.



June / July



**REPLICA GUILD CANDLE STICK MADE BY ALEX BENDELI.**

The Guild acknowledges and thanks George Hatfield for allowing the use of his Candlestick as the Guilds Logo.

## **THE GUILD COMMITTEE FOR 2017 / 2018**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>PHILIP MCLEOD</b>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	<b>TONY NEY</b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>IAN COCKS</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>IAN COCKS</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</b>	<b>KEN SULLIVAN</b>
<b>EDUCATION OFFICER</b>	<b>WARREN RANKIN</b>
<b>EVENT COORDINATOR</b>	<b>DAVID KING</b>
<b>EDITOR NEWSLETTER</b>	<b>PHILIP MCLEOD</b>

### **Committee members 2017 /2018**

Kevin Santwyk	96448366	Bankstown
David King (TBC)	0424188857	Bankstown
Mario Dato	0419404405	Eastern
Phil McLeod	0418267096	Eastern
Antonio Imparato	0408550678	Eastern
Bill Black	0401701327	Menai
Tony Ney	95200634	Menai
Alex Bendeli	02-94161976	Northern Beaches
John Cottle	02-99052107	Northern Beaches
Gordon Scott	0403088488	Northern Beaches
Michael Adamietz	0456856080	Southern Highlands
Paul Kruss	0417757877	Macarthur
Ian Cocks	0410159180	Macarthur
Michael Twemlow	02-46284670	Macarthur

## JULY MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.



Hello and Welcome to the June/July edition of the By Hand and Eye.

I am going to start by saying that it should be remembered that each of the clubs, associations, regions are an Incorporated entity, and therefore, while under the umbrella of the Guild, they are independent and can make their own decisions regarding raising loans and entering into contracts etc.

As President I am often asked “What does the Guild do for me, or my Club?”

It is a question that in the past I have not thought deeply about, however, recently I have started to ponder the question. I started by making a list of all the things that the Guild and its volunteer representatives do in the course of the year. The list became quite long. So let me start with the big items and work to the smaller items.

**Membership:** The Membership Secretary, (Ken Sullivan) lets the Guild and the Clubs keep track of current members. Membership numbers from the Guild are NOT reissued. Therefore, for example membership number 1 is not held by the oldest member, or the Guild President. It is only held by the original owner. Club Membership Secretaries should be in reasonably regular contact with Ken to help him keep the records up to date. You should also CC the Guild Secretary, (Ian Cocks), on these emails. Email addresses for Ken and Ian are:

Ken Sullivan [sckbs@hotmail.com](mailto:sckbs@hotmail.com), and Ian Cocks [ian.cocks@gmail.com](mailto:ian.cocks@gmail.com) .

**Insurance:** The Guild by using the power of numbers ensures that members and Clubs get the best possible deal for insurance. Each year clubs or individuals say that they can get insurance cheaper. The Guild Secretary ALWAYS checks to ensure that we are getting the best deal possible. We usually find that we can get cheaper insurance, but you have to give something up, e.g. “Uninvited Guest Cover”. This covers you if a thief breaks into your club to steal from you. They then injure themselves and sue you for leaving dangerous equipment around. Or you have to give up cover for carrying large amounts of cash from a market day, BBQ or other fund raiser etc. Or you have to give up Public Liability Cover, it is assumed that no one wants to take that risk. It should be noted that there will be an increase in premiums this year for the Fire Levy. This will be across most policy’s including household insurance.

**Club Promotion:** The Guild through the Easter Show and Timber and Working With Wood Show promotes ALL the clubs. Anyone coming to the demonstrations and showing an interest in joining, or trying Woodturning is given a flyer and directed to the most appropriate club for the area that they live in. We have the Guild Events Coordinator David King to thank for these activities.

Also under this section are Web services. A number of clubs have their own website, but the Guild also promotes the Clubs through its own Website. Indeed clubs are welcome to have their own space on the Guild website. Our web designer, Catherine Ritter has made this offer a number of times.

Most recently promotion has taken a new turn with Bankstown and Northern Beaches and Eastern Region trying out the offer of the Hobby Society. Bankstown report very good results. They also report that they redirect possible members to the club nearest to them if they wish to join the Guild.

**Sale of Excess Product:** The Guild through The Timber and Working With Wood Show enables those who wish to, to sell their excess product. The Guild does take a small percentage, but the Guild has to pay for the space, electricity, truck etc. Profit for this IS NOT our main objective, please remember that most of the membership you pay goes to insurance.

**Training:** The Guild offers, free to the Clubs “Train the Trainer Courses”. These courses are run on an as needs basis and have been very well received in the past.

**Promoting the Craft of Woodturning:** This ties in with the Easter Show, where the Guild offers prizes in a number of categories devoted to woodturning. It also comes into the area of the Timber and Working With Wood Show where the incredible products of our members are on display and sale.

It also ties in with Web services, the newsletter and Hobby Society activities.

**Newsletter:** Better known as The By Hand and Eye. Unfortunately for a few years this has had a somewhat checkered past. I am determined to improve and expand the content to better reflect what the Clubs are doing. I hope that you have noticed some improvements already. If you want to send an article in to the BH&E you are most welcome to do so. If you have a suggestion for something to go into the newsletter, let me know and send some information. If you have an idea to improve The BH&E, I am always willing to listen. My email address is [byhandandeye@gmail.com](mailto:byhandandeye@gmail.com).

I know that a number of clubs have their own newsletter/club magazine. This is fine. It allows members to know what is happening within their own club. BH&E allows members to know what is happening in other parts of the Guild.

I would like to finish by saying that you should remember it is YOUR Guild, and you will only get out of it what you put into it. The volunteers are there to help and facilitate, but in the final analysis it is up to YOU to make it work.

I know that there are probably things that I have missed in this list. I sincerely apologize to those effected by my omission.

To quote a previous Guild President until next time “Keep the Lathes turning”, and have fun.

*Philip McLeod*

(PHILIP MCLEOD)  
PRESIDENT

## GUILD CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018.

Guild meetings take place at the Girl Guide Hall, 157 Waldron Street, Chester Hill. 2162.

The Guild meets on the last Monday of every second month.

Meetings start at 1830, (6:30PM) and usually finish at 2100, (9PM) at the latest.

All members of the Guild are welcome to attend, but only 1 elected representative can vote at these meetings. This is to ensure that no one region can out vote the smaller regions. Everyone has an equal say in how the Guild is run.

The following dates are significant for the Guild:

### **2018**

Sydney Timber and Working with Wood Show, 20 to 22 July 2018. NOW AT ROSEHILL GARDENS.

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE AND VENUE.

Monday July 30 GUILD MEETING

Monday September 24 (**AGM and GUILD MEETING**)

Randwick Eco Fair September (Eastern Region)

Mid October entry's open for Royal Easter Show 2019

Monday November 26 GUILD MEETING

### **2019**

Monday January 28 GUILD MEETING

Monday March 25 GUILD MEETING

Friday April 12 – 23 ROYAL EASTER SHOW

Monday May 27 GUILD MEETING

July Timber and Working With Wood Show ROSEHILL GARDENS

Monday July 29 GUILD MEETING

Monday September 30 GUILD MEETING

Monday November 25 GUILD MEETING

PLEASE NOTE THE AGM IS IN SEPTEMBER. THE FOLLOWING PAGE HAS A NOMINATION FORM FOR PEOPLE WHO WISH TO RUN FOR ANY OF THE OFFICES.

**THE SYDNEY WOODTURNERS GUILD Inc.**

**Nomination and Acceptance Form**

Elections to be held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at the Girl Guide Hall,  
Waldron Road Chester Hill

We the undersigned wish to nominate:

.....

For the Position of.....

Signed.....

Signed.....

I will accept the Nomination for the Position of:

.....

Rules state:

Rule 15 (1) Nominations of candidates for election as an Office Bearer of the  
Association:

1. Must be made in writing, signed by 2 members of the Guild and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of the nomination) and
2. Must be delivered to the Secretary of the Guild at least 21 Days before the date fixed for the holding of the Annual General Meeting at which the election is to take place. (3<sup>th</sup> September 2018)

The Positions for election are;

President:

Vice President:

Secretary:

Treasurer

## **HISTORY FILES.**

**FEBRUARY / MARCH 1996 BY HAND AND EYE**

### **BRUCE LEADBEATER PORTRAIT OF A WOODTURNER**

**BY JIM DORBIS**

Bruce is one of the best known woodturners in our guild. He is also a clever woodturner. Because of his flair and dedication he has made woodturning for all of us more pleasant – practical, and let's face it ... easier. Bruce was born in Lismore 67 years ago. Married to charming Pat, has 2 children and 4 grandchildren. After High School and Teachers College he taught in High Schools for 15 years. Moved to Sydney, back to University for further studies. All his working life has been devoted to teaching (23 years teaching at Sydney Teacher's College). He retired in 1986 to give himself more time to do things like becoming an active member of the Inventor's Association and the Woodturning Guild, writing books, making videos, designing lathes, tools and gadgets.

Engineering, woodturning and allied arts must be hereditary in the Leadbeater family. As a teenager he was helping his father turn (on a treadle lathe) the Thompson Sub-machine gun barrels (they were toys). That was the beginning of the bug. Bruce is credited in having invented – amongst other things. The Super Chuck, the Screw chuck, microwave processing etc. On the way he collected several international awards and medals for his contribution to education in the area of Wood Technology and Industrial Arts. He has witnessed the unbelievable development of woodturning throughout the world during the last two decades. He has seen the Woodturners Guild grow to its present strength almost from its infancy (#76). And what does Bruce think of the Guild? Its greatest asset he says is the friendship and camaraderie of its members. It is a therapeutic craft and most satisfying, and overall it is the best organisation he has been in. He would like to see more organized demos on specific topics and more effort put in the creative side of woodturning. One of his best statements was that he never stops learning. His contribution to the Woodturners Guild is his aim to always improve existing machines, tools and accessories to widen the scope of woodturning. It has been said that he is doing all of the above for reward. And why not? It takes time, energy and effort, not forgetting expense to create these things. And reward is in order. He has given on permanent loan his latest swivel head lathe to the Southern Region. His greatest admiration is for the efforts of beginners in woodturning. Within a year of joining the Guild they create beautiful turnings. Bruce has a sense of humor, albeit funny. He is also known to be sometimes absent minded.

Like remembering his Demonstration trip to Dubbo in '94 a week late. Anyhow, he would have had time to visit the zoo. When asked if Pat nags him for bringing sawdust indoors he shouted yes, yes, yes ... she always yells to shake myself outside.

Dear Bruce, it must be a pleasure now, after all your hard work, to witness so many people taking on your favorite craft, woodturning. For all woodturners here is Bruce's advice (he calls it prayer).

*Make the bevel rub.*

*Raise the handle until the tool starts to cut.*

*Move the tool until it wants to cut.*

*Control the cut by making the bevel rub*

*And let's hope you have no catches.*

**Current Editors' Note: I only found this after publication of the last By Hand and Eye.**

**VALE BRUCE LEADBEATER.**



## Bleeding and Sharp Implement Injury.

It could be time to check the Workshop First Aid Kit is replenished and up to date.

Below is a short summary taken from St John's Emergency First Aid.

If calling triple zero (000) does not work on your mobile phone, try 112.

## Bleeding:

**Lie patient down if bleeding is severe.** Remove or cut clothing to expose the wound.

**Apply direct and firm pressure to the wound.** Instruct the patient to do this if possible. If the patient is unable to apply pressure apply pressure using a pad or your hands, (use gloves if available). Squeeze wound edges together if possible.

**Raise and support the bleeding part.** Above the level of the heart. Restrict movement as much as possible.

**Apply a pad over the wound.** If not already done. Secure with a bandage. Ensure that this pad stays in place.

**If bleeding is still not controlled.** Apply a second pad and bandage over the first. If bleeding continues replace the second pad and bandage.

**Check circulation below the wound.**

**If severe bleeding continues,** give nothing by mouth and call 000.

## Imbedded Object:

**DO NOT:** Try to remove the object, Exert any pressure over the object, try to cut the end of the object unless its size makes it unmanageable.

**Control Bleeding by applying pressure.** To the surrounding areas, but not on the object.

**Place padding around the object.** Or place a ring pad around the object.

**Bandage over the padding or only each side of the object.**

**Seek medical aid.**



## HUMOR FROM THE SHAVINGS.

### LAWS FOR WOODTURNERS

Courtesy of the QLD Woodturners Newsletter.

**First Law:** If anything can go wrong it will. Even if nothing can go wrong it will anyway.

**Second Law:** Whatever goes wrong there is always someone who knew it would.

**Third Law:** However many times it works in trials it will fail to work in the demonstration.

**Fourth Law:** Everything takes longer than you think it will.

**Fifth Law:** And costs more.

**Sixth Law:** In any calculation any error which can creep in will do so.

**Seventh Law:** When an error has been detected and corrected it will be found to have been correct in the first place.

**Eighth Law:** In any measurements the figure that is most obviously correct, beyond all need of checking, is the mistake.

### GUILD ITEMS FOR SALE.

Please see your Guild Representative if you want any of these items. Prices are as marked.



Guild Cloth Patch \$6.00



Guild Baseball style Cap \$10.00

If there is anything you, or your club wish to sell. Or something you are looking for, let me know and I am happy to put it into By Hand and Eye.

Commercial operations will have to pay a small reasonable fee for advertising.

## A Dozen Truths for New Woodturners (Kurt Hertzog).

While learning the ins and outs of woodturning (or any new skill, for that matter), you might find yourself limited by preconceived notions, half-truths, myths, or misconceptions. I've compiled twelve truths that I think every new turner should understand to get started on sound footing.

- 1. Safety is always a worthwhile Routine.** Never forgo safety practices for the sake of convenience, image, or complacency. Woodturning is unique among the woodworking crafts in that the cutting edge isn't under power—the work is under power, being rotated, and you present the cutting edge, which is pointing away from you, to it. But don't let that make you complacent about safety; any powered machine can become dangerous in an instant. A stray piece of clothing or hair can become the mechanism to drag you into danger without notice. Of course, lathe tools are sharp and always capable of causing injury. Inhaling dust and debris from turning and sanding may not seem detrimental, but the cumulative effect can be debilitating. Consider both the immediate dangers and the long-term ones. There is no reason *not* to practice safe turning at all times. Protective equipment for your skin, eyes, face, and lungs is *always* in order. Protecting not only yourself, but anyone else in close proximity isn't being chicken or overly cautious—it is being smart and responsible.
- 2. Ability is not defined or limited by age or gender.** One of the joys of woodturning is that it is open to all. Regardless of whether you start as a youngster or a retiree, you'll have the same opportunities to learn and grow your skills in woodturning. Recently, manufacturers have offered lathes that are more suitable to turners with physical limitations. Tool-handling can be accomplished in various creative ways. There are turners with vision problems, missing limbs, or other challenges. In prior decades, high school education was slanted, steering most boys to woodshop and most girls to home economics. Given cultural expectations, more men gravitated to woodturning than women. But traditional gender roles are constantly being challenged, and as people are drawn to woodturning, there are many new turners, both men and women. Capabilities are ultimately defined by training and practice—not by gender expectations. Regardless of your background, starting point, gender, or existing challenges, you can succeed. Woodturning skills and abilities have never been predetermined by age or gender.
- 3. Sandpaper is a cutting tool.** Even the best turners use abrasives, so don't get hung up on the false stigma of "needing to use" sandpaper. Sandpaper is indeed a cutting tool—not one that will cover up poor turning or perform significant shaping, but one that is meant to transition curves together smoothly and prepare the surface for applying a finish. Start as coarse as necessary. Don't be tempted to brag about starting at some finer grit. When sanding, slow the lathe down. If your fingers get hot, you are turning too fast. Think of the cabinetmaker, sanding with the wood not moving. Once the starting grit is completed, use a paper towel to clean off the debris. This insures that any abrasive that may have separated from the paper is gone before you start the next finer grit. As a cutting tool, sandpaper can be sharp or dull (new or worn). Since you cannot sharpen sandpaper like you can a steel tool, throw it away as soon as it is spent. Loaded and/or worn sandpaper doesn't cut wood, it burnishes it. Follow Vic Wood's advice: "Use sandpaper like someone else is paying for it."
- 4. Nobody will know if you used a Skew.** Properly turned and well-finished turnings tell no secrets. When you think of your end audience, or customer, is he or she buying the knowledge of which tool you used to get to the finished turning? Do they really care? If you use a spindle gouge to roll beads or make pommel cuts, nobody will know if you don't tell them. The skew is a wonderful tool and well worth mastering. It excels at some cuts and performs many that other tools do, too. That said, the skew is a higher-risk tool in certain applications. Skew catches are usually ruinous for the work, with spiralling lines and ugly gouges on the surface. Many times, the work is not recoverable. If you are in business, you may have lost valuable stock and the time you have invested. I am not suggesting you shouldn't learn the skew, but on projects that count, use the tool best suited to the task and which you can handle successfully. Don't be tempted to use a tool with which you are not proficient just for bragging rights.

5. **There is no shame in just practicing.** Every endeavour has a learning curve— practice, practice, practice. No one starts out being an expert at what he/she does. Learning requires an understanding of the basics and then practicing them until they become second nature. At the lathe, the ability to think of the curve you want and have the muscle memory to execute it without worrying about the minute details is the goal. Like practicing the scales on a musical instrument, practicing the various lathe cuts with each of the tools in your kit will pay dividends. Not only will you become more proficient and confident, you will also speed your throughput, reduce sanding, and probably enjoy turning more. So spend time at the lathe just practicing and not necessarily striving for a finished, presentable product. Each and every tool you use has an application. It performs one or more cuts superbly or it wouldn't exist. The kit in its entirety will let you do almost anything, once you master the tools. If you try to practice while you are creating something, you tend to focus on being successful, rather than on skill-building.
6. **Sharpening is worth every moment you spend on it.** Sharp tools provide better results more quickly and more safely. Like tuning a guitar before playing it, you must “tune,” or prepare, your cutting tools for optimal performance in order to master their use. From the retailer, lathe tools are rarely at the correct grind angle or sharp. You immediately need to get to the grinder to create the proper angle and shape. Without a sharp tool, newcomers will tend to make every tool a scraper. They'll lift the tool handle and increase the clearance angle until something happens. It makes every cutter a scraper and generates dust rather than curls. A functional sharpening system is required on day one. If you have a lathe and tools without a sharpening system available, you aren't ready to turn yet. Sharpening, like turning skills, isn't a natural trait. It will take learning and practice. The time you spend perfecting your sharpening skills will be time well spent. Eventually, you'll be able to sharpen your tools quickly and efficiently. Once sharpening becomes easy, you'll do it often and never wait for a tool to become very dull. Touching up a tool edge is far easier and quicker than fully sharpening a dull tool.
7. **Projects needn't be completed in one session.** Always expecting a finished project after just one turning session can short change results. Woodturners are unique in the world of woodworking. Rarely can a woodworking project like a piece of furniture or cabinetry be completed in one session. For the woodturner, it is often expected. Perhaps the immediate gratification is what draws people to our craft, but this expediency can also leave creativity on the back burner. Consider that woodworkers often divide their project time into thirds: one-third for project creation, one-third for sanding/ prep for finish, and one-third for finishing and final touches. Losing the need to finish everything in one go, you won't need to hurry sanding and skimp on finishing prep. You'll also be able to inspect the work carefully and go back to fix problems. Removing the impulse to hurry, you can also evolve from quick finishes, such as friction polish, to the wider spectrum of slower-curing but more durable finishes, like varnish. You can also revisit form and creative ideas.
8. **Attention to detail pays dividends.** Paying attention to detail will raise the level of your work. Whether you are a hobby turner or a professional, your turning projects are likely to be judged in some manner—if not in a competition, then maybe as a measure of your competence or as a comparison of asking price to perceived value. A sure-fire way to improve overall results is to spend the extra time and care on the finer details. This can be as simple as grain orientation in a bowl to achieve the best visual end result. One detail always worth considering is preparation for finish; that errant scratch you missed during the sanding process will certainly get highlighted under the final finish. As your skills improve and your audience changes, the scrutiny of results increases and attention to detail will only become more important. Turning structural chair parts without care as to straightness of grain and orientation is a future failure. Overheating a sensitive species during sanding is a future crack development. Lack of care during sanding erases crisp details. Selection of species for a project is an important factor, as is the actual selection of the blank. All of the materials may look the same, but paying attention to the differences in stock can lead to better results. Make paying attention to detail a habit. It costs nothing and yields huge results.

- 9. Problem solving is rewarding in and of itself.** Often satisfaction comes not from the finished product, but from problems solved along the way. Don't let problems that arise derail your woodturning. You'll experience challenges at every stage of your woodturning career, and they are best seen as learning opportunities. These can be as simple as a wood species that doesn't turn well, even when you follow the "rules." Sometimes, breaking with convention can solve the problem of a troublesome workpiece. Every species can have some peculiarity that you'll need to address, and when you do, you'll know a little more for next time. Work-holding will always offer chances to solve problems. There is a way to safely hold just about anything on the lathe. The keyword is *safely*. Sometimes it takes special jigs, chucks, adapters, fasteners, adhesives, and more. Get creative. Solving the problem shouldn't be viewed as an obstacle, but rather as the fun of learning. Much of your growth as a turner is how you embrace these challenges and add skills to your repertoire by doing so. Challenges are not only at the lathe. The workshop can present problems needing attention. For example, dust extraction and compressed air routing for availability in the shop can be rewarding puzzles to solve. Of course, storage for tools, equipment, finishes, and wood is always in need of some creativity. As your woodturning skills progress and the woodturning portions of a project become easier, ancillary problem-solving tasks will be a refreshing departure from chip-making.
- 10. You'll never know it all, so keep an open mind.** One of the joys of woodturning is that the learning never ends. Regardless of how long you've been at it or how proficient you've become, there is always something else to learn or explore. Many people specialize by turning mainly bowls or pens or lidded boxes. Every type of woodturning has its own techniques and tricks. If you ever get to the point where you feel bored because you've "mastered" woodturning, branch out into a different facet of turning. Try your hand at various embellishing techniques or a completely different form. Part of the joy of woodturning is the continual learning process, made easy with books, videos, live demonstrations, and classes. Video in particular is a rapidly expanding medium on the Internet. But be certain to verify the quality and safety being conveyed in online videos, many of which blatantly show unsafe practices. AAW's VideoSource vets online videos for you, so you can trust the content of videos included there. Visit [tiny.cc/AAWVideoSource](http://tiny.cc/AAWVideoSource) to check it out. Another way to keep learning is to teach, a rewarding challenge that will expand your own skills as well as those of your students.
- 11. Mistakes and failures can teach you well.** Embrace your mistakes and fumbles—determine what went wrong. As you progress in woodturning, you will likely take on new challenges that require more time and skill. With complexity comes the greater likelihood of complications, mistakes, and mishaps. Multi-piece assemblies, inserted and friction-fit parts, complicated base material glueups, and more will present occasional failure, sometimes due to an error on your part and sometimes not. Wood, a natural and organic material, is fraught with potential issues. Material flaws that become evident or problematic during a project can be design opportunities. Everyone makes mistakes, and things happen—accept this fact and live with the vagaries of working with something that grows rather than is manufactured. From a more philosophical perspective, if you are succeeding at your turning projects 100 percent of the time, you probably aren't stretching your abilities. Taking risks in the form of new processes and techniques (always done safely) will expand your skillset. You can also take risks in the form of project design, which might ultimately fail but show you what's next.
- 12. The magic isn't in the tool.** Contrary to the woodturners' joke that you are only "one tool away from greatness," acquiring that brand new tool will probably not solve your turning challenges. You'll ultimately accept the fact that the magic isn't in the tool—it's in the turner. I know that having the latest and greatest offering in your kit can be part of the fun of woodturning. There is plenty to choose from in the way of tools and equipment, some of which is quite impressive. Manufacturers strive to offer what will sell, with continual improvement in design and materials. Those innovations can certainly help but won't replace solid learning and practice on your part. Mostly, sharp tools, good technique, and creative ideas are behind the best woodturning. No one ever played Carnegie Hall by buying a fancy piano. They got there by mastering their skills and being able to exhibit their mastery using any piano.

## AROUND THE REGIONS

### MENAI REGION.

Currently running 2 meetings per month. The first meeting is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at the High School.

The second meeting is on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at the Menai Men's Shed. It has been decided to get members qualified to operate the Men's Shed equipment to simplify their operations on Tuesday nights. Currently they have 4 Lathes complete with tools in the shed.

Tony Ney described to the group how he demonstrated turning spheres at one of the meetings.

They also reported that the Men's Shed has received a grant to purchase a portable Slabbing Chainsaw. Once it is acquired they may be willing to come out to help slab a tree that you need help with.

JUNE THEME - LAMP STANDS



**Mick Bouchard** – Lamp created from Blackboy stand and pine slatted shade.



**Arthur Walker** – Lamp stand – Pine stand & maple rings stained with walnut and clear lacquer finish



**Tony Ney** – Lamp stand -Tasmanian Blackwood with silver ash veneer





**Bob Thomas** – Maple Bed Lamp finished with EEE cream & Shella-wax



**Phill Frisardi** – Camphor Laurel Lamp base



**Graeme Stokes – Pine Lamp stand.**



## NORTHERN BEACHES.

Northern beaches run a learning class on Saturdays. They are currently averaging 10 learners on each Saturday.

**The Challenge:** - To turn a string pull spinning top.

Naturally being spinning tops we had to have a little competition.

You guessed it the competition was to see whose top would spin the longest.

For the sake of time (due to the number of world class endurance type spinning tops we had) the rules were -----One top only per contestant and one spin only.

Wow how good are we on what I might add was a rather uneven surface all the tops went on and on for quite some time, in the end there was very little between the lot of them.

It was a very commendable effort. We did end up however with an eventual winner -- The title going to Jack Butler. Jack's top went for 3 mins 34 secs on the unbalanced table on the sloped grass driveway.

Congratulations Jack but I must stress - this does not mean you are **the TT** this title is still held by Meg. You are now the **LS TT**. (longest spinning top turner) Even though a lot of us feel that given a better surface and the best of 3 attempts we would have given you a run for your money.

I am sure that Graham devised this challenge to see if our "top" turner Meg could still retain her crown!

There was no doubt that the contenders for the crown came in all shapes and sizes, but the proof was to be in the spinning challenge that was won by, you will never guess who, Jack with a spin time of 3 minutes 4.87 seconds. This won him \$100,000.00 provided that he and Marg were careful when they scratched!!!!

On a cool but sunny morning, Meg again delighted members by her introduction of the items on display. With a few exceptions all items on display were tops that met or exceeded the challenge.

Gorge Armen gave us an insight into the physics of top spinning, claiming that tall people with long arms can obtain a mechanical advantage over short people with sort arms when it came to sting pulling to launch a top... is this true? , you be the judge....

When it came to spinning, the times were:- Gary 0:24.3, Ken 1:33.1, Gorge 1:33.29, Jim 2:12.03, Rupert 1:48.49, Graham 1:37.32, Jack 3:04.87 ,Greg 0:23.03, Robert M 1:05.41, Meg 1:14.78.





**JACK BUTLER'S** Winning Entry



This one whistled

### BANKSTOWN REGION.

The association with Hobby Society is going well. They are averaging 1 session per month. Currently they have had 3 new members from this activity. They receive \$110.50 per participant. If they choose to become a member they are charged the normal fee for joining the Guild.



**AN MAI** - Lidded Boxes





**HAROLD SOAN**



**KEN MORGAN**



**TED BATTY** Lidded Boxes



Vase



**KEVIN SANWYK**

### MACARTHUR REGION.

The group is doing well. The April BBQ at Campbelltown went well with a good number of members turning up to help. They ran out of everything and made a significant profit.

They have had 2 new members join.

The visit to the Heritage Fleet went very well with 30 people attending for the tour.

Timberbits is putting in a cabinet to display woodturning items. The contents will change every 2 months. Anyone wanting to display their work must go through Macarthur. There will be no sales.

### EASTERN REGION.

On Friday 30 March Eastern Region hosted Mr. Joel Albert from "The Bay City Woodturners" USA. Although it was Good Friday, and consequently there was only a very small number of members there, a good time was had by all. A hat tip to Alex Bendeli for making the long trip over from Northern Beaches. We sincerely thank you and hope that you had a good time. There was a demonstration of Burl Turning by David Caruana, and he would like to thank Gerry Brady for helping to organise the activity.

Eastern Region is working on getting their own logo and Polo Shirt. We will keep everyone informed about future developments.

## SOUTHERN REGION.

They were very happy to report that they have now moved into their new shed. However, they still need water, a toilet and walls as well as an efficient heating system as it is such a large space to heat. They report that they will be up and running by the Guild Meeting in July.

They are attending the Mittagong and Bundanoon markets each month and recently also went to the Robertson Wool Festival.

### A Country Woodturner

By Ken Sullivan

A little over 15 years ago I was in Belgium attending a conference on a software product that I was supporting in Australia. We were 50 Km outside of Brussels in a wooded area and pretty much isolated from any nearby town (we were not allowed to rent a car while we were at the conference... a management desire to ensure that our commitment to the conference was not "conflicted"). The conference centre was a beautiful and well-maintained building set in a 200-year-old forest... but we spent six and a half days dealing with a very surly staff. The day before we arrived they had been informed that the centre would be shutdown as soon as we left and they would all be "let go".

No, it wasn't the best environment.

It was, however, intense. Six and a-half days, eight hours per day, one and two hours for each session, one half hour for lunch. No tea breaks, but we were allowed to grab a cup of coffee in the 5 minutes between sessions... as long as we didn't take the coffee into the classroom. I took a lot of notes, and when I returned to Australia, I put together a "learning session" for my fellow software specialists. Two guys showed up. And they weren't even responsible for supporting the product. But they got out of having to take service calls for a day.

OK. The real advantage of the "junket" was the three days that followed the conference and before I was due in England. Best Beloved and I decided to spend them traveling in Belgium, as neither of us had ever been to Europe before. We did rent a car, and just drove from town to town seeing beautiful and picturesque cities, stunning castles, magnificent rivers and meeting very friendly people.

We stayed the first night in a small farming town in southern Belgium, having dinner and a room in the town's "pub". It had been built in the 1850's with narrow circular stairs up to the postage stamp sized room (a double bed and a door... that was it. The toilet was down on the ground floor). But it was all old wood, polished with oil and varnished every six months, and it smelled wonderful.

Dinner was superb: Thick lamb chops (non-frozen, so probably gamboling in the back paddock within the last few days) with a superb mint sauce, fresh vegetables picked from the back garden that same day, fresh baked "French" bread with slabs of butter and cream for the coffee. Yeah, even after 15 years I remember that dinner. And the cost? About \$17 AUS each. The room cost \$25 for both of us...

At the end of the meal Best Beloved went upstairs to bed. I decided to stay in the pub and ask for a beer. Australian beer companies had recently been bought out by CUB/Nathan and the South African company that was eventually bought out by Japan. In my opinion, Sydney beers had taken a significant turn for the worse, so I decided I would ask for a Belgian beer. He didn't speak very good English and my French (the second language in Belgium) was at "a long time ago" High School level. But eventually he understood my request and started me off on a schooner of a relatively dark coloured but light flavored Belgian beer. It was wonderful. I enthused, and he decided to try me on an ale. It was also wonderful, so I enthused. And he offered me a third variety. To put it gently, I slept very well that night.



The point is, I don't remember exactly how those beers tasted and I've certainly never been able to find them again. But I was talking with an enthusiast who did his best to make sure I enjoyed the time and tasted what he thought were the "best" beers in the world. I did enjoy the experience and continue to remember it with fondness. Even with the communication difficulty, we were sharing something that he loved, and we both had a very good time.

That is how I see the Sydney Woodturning Guild: a group of people who want to share their joy with what we do as a hobby. Most of us will never be "top notch" or "professional" turners. We will scrape when we should cut, we will use the wrong tool, cut at the wrong angle, use too much sandpaper, but we enjoy working with wood. We love the smell, we love the feel, and we enjoy the "dance" in front of the lathe in order to change a lump of wood into something that at least approximates what we have in mind.

Yeah, we've had a rough few years. From what I have been able to understand, two regions that were the primary sources of our Committee members for quite a number of years had a spat over "political" issues, couldn't remain polite to each other, and as a result, both walked off in a huff without educating a new Committee. Communication with all of the regions effectively ended for a while, and the Committee entered "damage control". So mistakes were made, and the remaining regions certainly haven't felt "loved". I doubt we'll ever know the complete story, but because of it, we've been having a hard time.

A smoothly operating Committee helps our experience as members, but I'm not a member of the Guild for that reason. I attend the Southern Highlands region in order to learn, and to share what I have discovered in almost 30 years of turning. And every meeting I attend, I do learn something new. So I continue to find my membership rewarding.

And if I can help another "newby" to share in the joy of woodturning, then I have had an even more enjoyable day.

### ADVERTISEMENT, FINIALS NEEDED.

Contact Bill McGookin <[bill@cmcox.com.au](mailto:bill@cmcox.com.au)> if you are interested in doing this. Photographs are below.

The dimensions of the current one are:

Length top to bottom – 1200mm

Square mid-section 100mm x 100mm (note these are not actually completely square as there are parts of 2 edges that are what I call "splayed" as you can see in the 2<sup>nd</sup> photo. These are the 2 front exposed edges. The other 2 are the rear edges against the house and out of sight.). The 100mm x 100mm is the size needed to fit in the gap in the gable left by removing the old ones.







## GUILD AFILIATES CALENDER OF EVENTS

### BANKSTOWN REGION

Bankstown Region has their shed open on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month from 0800 to approximately 1430.

They meet at the Girl Guide Hall, 157 Waldron Street, Chester Hill. 2162.

### SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS REGION

Tuesday	Friday	Saturday
8.30am -4.00pm	8.30 am – 12.30pm	12.00pm – 4.30 pm

Monthly meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of month 11.00am -4.30pm

### SYDNEY NORTHERN BEACHES WOODTURNERS

The Sydney Northern Beaches Woodturners are located at the Narrabeen RSL Club, 116 Nareen Parade North Narrabeen, 2101.

The Workshop is at the front lower section of the building and is available to members daily.

Tuesday, Friday and Saturday sessions are set aside for learning, training, guidance and toy making. Open: 9.00am

Committee/Member meetings are conducted at the Workshop on Tuesdays and the third Sunday of each Month.

Secretary: Barry Brown 0424 525 370

### MENAI REGION WOODTURNERS DATES 2017.

Menai High School The Wood Room 6PM to 9PM	Men's Shed at Barden Ridge (100metres down on right from Golf Driving Range ) 5:30PM to 8:30PM
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month



### **EASTERN REGION CALENDAR DATES.**

**Shed Openings are at 169 Bilga Crescent, Malabar.**

**Our Shed is open each Friday and Saturday from 1000 to 1400, can be extended if necessary.**

**The group meets on the first Sunday of the month for an administrative meeting, BBQ lunch and "Show and Tell".**

### **MACARTHUR REGION WOODTURNERS**

**The Macarthur Region Woodturners meet on the last Sunday of each month.**

**From 9:30AM to 2:30PM.**

**At the Robert Townson High School, Shuttleworth Avenue, (enter off Spitfire Drive), Raby. 2566.**

**For more information and membership contact either:**

**Paul Kruss 0417 757 877 or**

**Ian Cocks 0410 159 180**

#### **REGION CONTACTS:**

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Menai:	Bill Black 0401701327
Northern Beaches:	Rupert Linn 0422 111 060 Graham Truelove 0420 367 168
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Find us on the web at:

[www.sydneywoodturners.com](http://www.sydneywoodturners.com)

All By Hand & Eye articles go to

[byhandandeye@gmail.com](mailto:byhandandeye@gmail.com)

Submissions for By Hand and Eye must be in 3 weeks before the  
Guild Meeting.

**Submissions are best in Word format.**

All non-by Hand & Eye Email goes to

[sydneywoodturners@gmail.com](mailto:sydneywoodturners@gmail.com)

Mail:

Secretary

Sydney Woodturners Guild Inc.

2 Docharty Street Bradbury NSW 2560

*The Guild acknowledges and thanks George Hatfield for the use of  
his Candlestick design as the Guilds Logo.*

## **DISCLAIMER**

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