

BY HAND AND EYE

The official newsletter of the Sydney Woodturners Guild Inc.

May 2011

Close off dates for articles for July
BH & E will be Friday 8th July 2011

Edited by Scott Rollo

HEADLINES

GUILD RENEWAL FEES DUE!!!!!!
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**Not everyone wants to
be a Pro Turner**

My Shed - Sam Shakouri

Royal Easter Show 2011

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

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**IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T
HEARD YET...IT'S TIME
TO PAY YOUR RENEWAL
FEES!!!!!! PAY EARLY TO
AVOID GETTING TRAMPLED
IN THE ALMOST CERTAIN
RIOT THAT WILL ENSUE ANY
DAY NOW. DO IT, YOU KNOW
YOU WANT TO!!!**

I hope everyone is well & enjoying life. I am. So close to Winter and this year is really flying!

Congratulations to those Regions & members who participated at the Royal Easter Show. A huge effort by many turners and very generous crowd was a great reward for having such a prominent display just inside the main craft exhibition. Anyone who saw the crowds couldn't but be impressed on the interest shown by the average visitor. I believe there were many questions asked and answered as to the "how" and we can only hope that some of the visitors interest has been piqued and they make an effort to go further and contact one of our affiliated clubs.

Unfortunately I couldn't be there but, I have received reports that the Guild display was excellent. Well done to everyone who was involved, especially the guild representatives and the committee members who toiled for the entire two week period of the Royal Easter Show.

As the new president I have been asked many questions. A few people have asked why their Region should remain affiliated with the Guild?

There is a very simple answer. Apart from the By Hand & Eye & the insurance which the Guild organises for the Regions, there are events such as the Royal Easter Show & the Working With Wood Show which is organised by the Guild with help & participation by various Region members.

Perhaps the most important reason & one that is taken for granted by all of us is the communication link between Regions afforded by the Guild. If the Guild didn't exist & the Regions were all independent of each other I believe this communication would not exist. Mateship is very important & I believe the Guild is the conduit that makes this mateship between members from different Regions possible. If the Guild ceased to exist, Regions would, in time, become isolated and that would be a sad thing. Free exchange of thoughts and ideas between clubs is crucial to keeping everyone "on the same page" and make sure we are working towards the same goals and have the same altruistic motives in making decisions.

The Guild is only as good as its associate members & affiliated Regions and the Guild encourages ideas and suggestions from the Regions and it's members. If any suggestions put forward are viable and possible, the Guild will certainly "give it a go". We want to hear it all, be it bouquets or brickbats. So if you have a gripe, a suggestion or just want to praise someone for doing a good job, please let your guild representatives know so they can pass on your feedback

Enjoy your turning & I hope to see you "around the traps".

Warren.

P.S. DID I MENTION THAT YOUR RENEWAL FEES ARE DUE – PAY NOW TO AVOID THE RUSH!!!!!!

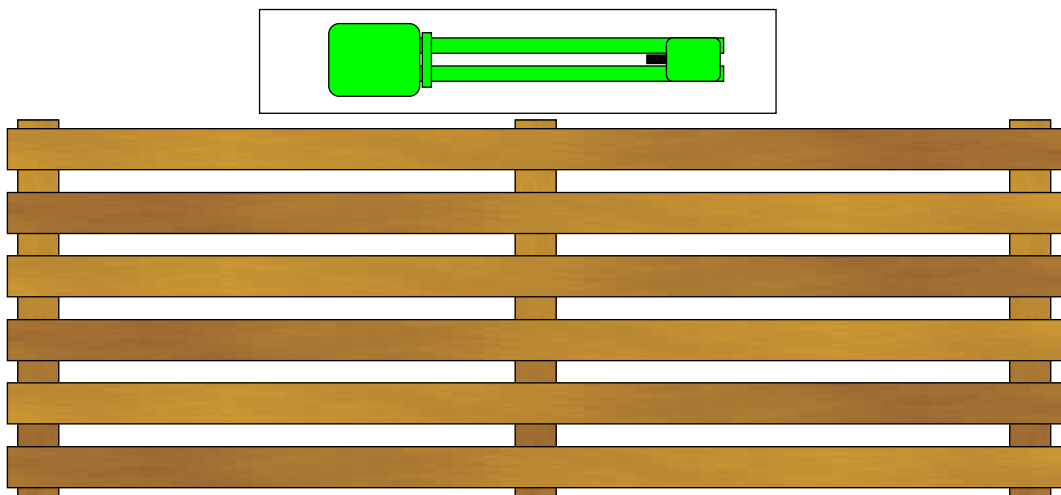
Just how tidy is your workshop or shed? Ask yourself when it was that you had your last “serious” shed cleanup...do you just continually turn and never have enough time to clean up?

The reason I ask is that it has become apparent that many, if not a seriously large percentage of turners are wood hoarders...surprise surprise!!! And very few of us have the time or inclination to clean up! I can't believe that! No not really... But this is this an issue.

Well if you are a neat freak and clean your shed every time you turn so that there are no remnants of shavings or sawdust then you are in the minority for sure. For the rest of us who clean up only occasionally then there are several hazards to overcome. The first issue is that thick long shavings can present a real trip hazard and a slip hazard. If you have an anti fatigue mat at your lathe then you have done something to alleviate what can be a long, cold and sometimes hard time standing at the lathe. If you haven't done something to isolate the cold concrete from your feet and spine then allow me to suggest something that may make your time standing at the lathe a bit less painful. It has an added benefit that I will explain shortly.

It is something that is simple and some of you may have already done it. As you grew up there was possibly trivets present in your parents kitchen. They were used to isolate the hot pot from the cool bench and dissipate the heat, or insulate one from another. The principles work the same for turners and it is a cheap fix.

Build up a “trivet” for your shed by constructing a platform with slats running in the same direction as your lathe with cross pieces bracing these slats. This has two purposes. Firstly it gets your feet off the cold concrete and makes it far less cold, which if you stand for a long period will tend to feel like it is running up your legs and into your spine...most unpleasant.



The second purpose is to give your dust and shavings somewhere to go, assuming you make the gaps wide enough to allow the dust and shavings to fall down. This has the effect of reducing the debris under foot and reducing the fuel should there be any fire related incident. Please do not underestimate the risk that fire can present in a workshop scenario. We have many chemicals, cleaning cloths made of flammable materials, rags coated with cleaning products and sometimes very flammable high alcohol content. These combined with lovely dried timbers and natural barks are a potential tinderbox just waiting to bite you on the bum.

So...a few things to do over the next couple of weeks in your shed...don't think of it as cleaning up but more of....hazard reduction....Start by giving your workshop the tidy you've been meaning to do but never got "aroundtuit"...as much as we want to keep every scrap of wood to use one day, be realistic about the chance of using it and instead make a box of kindling for someone who has an open fire. Vacuum/Sweep/move all of the shavings and dust completely from your workshop. Do it like your workshop is going to be in a magazine and try and get it spotless. We all know it won't last, but the feeling of walking to a spotlessly clean workshop really is one to savour. Plus it means your workshop will be inherently more safe, due to lack of fuels (just in case you have a fire)

Then try really hard to de-clutter your turning area – we are all guilty of putting something down and thinking we will move that later on...it never happens and unless you move it when you have it in your hand you will end up with a lot of "thigamebobs" cluttering up where you turn. Clean house and simplify your life...

Next, address the shavings and dust at a base level. Very little should get to the floor, instead you should be trying to capture/divert/move the shavings/dust so it does not finish up on the floor or anywhere else for that matter.

I hope that you have some sort of dust collection or at the very least, something collecting the debris from the source e.g. right near to the timber being turned. If you haven't got one yet, I hope you have at least thinking about getting a dust collector. If you just want to get one for turning, then a one horsepower unit will be more than adequate. Most of the machinery houses will sell a low cost 1 Hp budget dust collector. Feel free to buy something bigger if you can afford it. To make your dust bags last better, build yourself a chip separator from a big barrel, so your bigger shavings and chips don't actually make it to the dust bags. There is a plethora of chutes and piping ideas to be found that you can locate close to the target area. This is important for a few reasons, the primary being to keep the dust out of your lungs but it has the added benefit of reducing that fine layer of wood dust that settles an hour after you finished turning.



I enjoy talking to the turners I come across in my travels for the guild and it is apparent that not everyone thinks about dust collection and the potential damage it can do to them. I can't impress upon you enough that if you are doing nothing, you need to do something – and do it soon! If your budget doesn't run to a dust collector just yet, at least head down to the local discount store and obtain a pedestal fan. Set it up blowing from right to left and at least this will move the dust and shavings away from your face area.

Do something – doing nothing could be causing you some harm.

Over the years I have noticed that some of the various clubs and organizations that I have been associated with move down a similar path where members and/or the club committee have begun to lose clear sight of why they actually came together in the first place.

I've been personally associated with a range of groups from aviculture, canine, P & F and industry groups, to old/recreational/collecting organizations, and the common faulty denominator I have witnessed is that dissent arises within a group due to what appears to be misguided politics and too eager competitiveness.

The politics may come about due to one or other members individual ambition to be a "leader". The competitiveness may arise from a little too much ego and a "my thing is bigger or better than your thing" kind of boastfulness.

I believe that both are fairly normal human faults and that if we look carefully in a mirror, we may see a hint or two of them in ourselves. But it is when they are exhibited in our role as members of a club that they become important in determining outcomes that we certainly would not plan.

Over the years of examining and judging woodwork and awarding prizes for items that have been put up for public criticism (the natural extension of competitiveness) I have been able to interact with people and hear their opinions and perceptions of their field of interest and enjoyment. This has led me to observe the negative cost of competitiveness within groups or clubs.

Our craft groups bring us together because of our enthusiasm and love of what we do (or want to do). We generally join because we're looking for an avenue where we can enjoy our interest within a group of like-minded people. But the underlying desire of most individuals is more likely to be social rather than simply to obtain support for our interest in the craft.

To keep the general theme of the group in harmony with this objective, I suggest a few basic ground rules:

- Anyone who is interested should be allowed to join the group. A newcomer may be a novice in hand skills but may have a doctorate in people skills. (incidentally, their partner may be a good cook or have a big truck – handy sometimes!)
- Acknowledgement that some new members who appear to be stand-offish may be simply shy or reserved and need time to communicate comfortably with others.
- Take care never to even appear to belittle a person who may not know the craft inside out.
- Consider doing away with competition within the group except in certain, very specific circumstances. (Package up the word COMPETITION, put it in a box and give it to a wise member to keep) Even the ubiquitous Show and Tell can be embarrassing for some if they have nothing for show or feel they can never achieve the quality or the excellence of others. These members can be driven away by their perception of inferiority, despite having other qualities and abilities that may be of value to the group.
- Accept the level of achievement of others and avoid criticizing their work unless asked. Help one another with skills but above all, enjoy the camaraderie of the group which is probably the main reason why you all joined.

- Finally, if there are members whose efforts are exemplary (in the opinion of the membership) then the wise one may be prevailed upon to open the box and take out a COMPETITION, though even then, this seems to work best when it is moved outside the group and into a neutral organization such as the local agricultural show.

The point of all this is not to deny winners their due, but to try to separate their competitiveness from the mainstream of the group. Their success should still encourage others to try harder so that the group works towards a common goal.

When competition is allowed to dominate, there is a danger that some members will feel intimidated and will eventually leave the group because their inability to “keep up”.

Not everyone can be a pro and a club can be a wonderful place for all members if everyone is accepted for what they are, rather than be continually prompted to be what they cannot.

This article was originally posted in the Australia Woodworker Issue 141 by August 2009 by Paul Gregson, the original Author. It is reproduced with the permission of the Australia Woodworker Magazine by Steven Burrows. We thank them both for the permission to reproduce this article.

How to know you're getting older...

- Everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
- The gleam in your eye is from the sun hitting your bifocals.
- You feel like the morning after and you haven't been anywhere.
- Your little black book contains names only ending in M.D.
- Your children begin to look middle age.
- You finally reach the top of the ladder and find it's leaning against the wrong wall.
- Your mind makes contracts your body can't keep.
- A dripping faucet causes and uncontrollable bladder urge.
- You look forward to a dull evening.
- Your favorite part of the newspaper is "20 Years Ago Today."
- You turn out the lights for economic reasons rather than romantic ones.
- You sit in the rocking chair and can't get it going.
- Your knees buckle and your belt won't.
- You regret all those mistakes you made resisting temptations.
- You're 17 around the neck, 42 around the waist, and 96 around the golf course.
- Your back goes out more than you do.
- Your pacemaker makes the garage door open when you see a pretty girl.
- The little old grey haired lady you help across the street is your wife.
- You sink your teeth into a steak and they stay there.
- You have too much room in the house and not enough in the medicine cabinet.
- You know all the answers but nobody asks the questions.

Don't let worry kill you let the church help.

Thursday night - Potluck supper. Prayer and meditation to follow.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The rosebud on the alter this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Rev. and Mrs. Julius Belzer.

This afternoon there will be a meeting in the South and North ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.

Tuesday at 4:00 PM there will be an ice cream social. All ladies giving milk will please come early.

Wednesday, the ladies Liturgy Society will meet. Mrs. Jones will sing, "Put me in my Little Bed" accompanied by the Pastor.

Thursday at 5:00 PM there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers Club. All wishing to become little mothers, please see the minister in his study.

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the alter.

The service will close with "Little Drops of Water". One of the ladies will start quietly and the rest of the congregation will join in.

Next Sunday a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet will come forward and do so.

The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the church basement Friday.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

**At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?"
Come early and listen to our choir practice.**



In the line at the store, the cashier told the older woman that she should bring her own grocery bag because plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologized to him and explained, "We didn't have the 'green thing' back in my day." The clerk responded, "That's our problem today. The former generation did not care enough to save our environment." He was right, that generation *didn't have the green thing back then.*

Back then, they returned their milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. *They didn't have the green thing back then.*

In her day, they walked up stairs, because they didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. They walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time they had to go two blocks. But she was right. *They didn't have the green thing back then.*

Back then, they washed the baby's diapers because they didn't have the throw-away kind. They dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine burning up 240 volts - wind and solar power really did dry the clothes. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But that old lady is right, *they didn't have the green thing back then.*

Back then, they had one TV, or radio, in the house - not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief, not a screen the size of the state of Montana. In the kitchen, they blended and stirred by hand because they didn't have electric machines to do everything for you. When they packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, they used a wadded up old newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, they didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. They used a push mower that ran on human power. They exercised by working so they didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she's right, *they didn't have the green thing back then.*

They drank from a fountain when they were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time they had a drink of water. They refilled their writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and they replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull. *They didn't have the green thing back then.*

Back then, people took the streetcar or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or rode the school bus instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service. They had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And they didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint. Isn't it sad that some, in other generations, lament about how wasteful the old folks were just because *they didn't have the green thing back then?*

I have been interested in wood working since my childhood. I was eight when I forced my mother to buy me a hand scroll saw. It was my favourite toy, unlikely for children in that age. With that saw I produced my first master piece, a little violin. It was so beautiful that it was stolen from school exhibition.

My workshop at that time was the first three steps of twelve that took us to second floor. You could imagine how hard it was to sit side way on the first step and cut timber on the third and leave the second for the saw to move up and down. I had never thought about it at that time, I was happy to see my projects in process toward the end. And I had to keep those three steps clean and tidy to avoid my mother's anger. I made many other things with that saw and in the same work place. I do not remember what happened after that until I finished high school and started working to support myself, but I remember that my interest in wood had never faded. I was dreaming of a super work shop that had all the equipments I needed. That was, and is still, my dream.

Being unable to turn my dream to reality, has never stopped me from doing something out of timber. As soon as I settled in Australia in 1974 I took up wood turning as my first choice in woodwork categories, as a hobby.

Although I consider myself very lucky to be in Australia, the wind continued against the ship in which I was travelling in this regard. A house without garage and love to turning wood forced me to work under the sky of the back yard. I had to set the lathe and all I needed in that back yard with a little workbench left permanently in back porch. At the end of the day or for any sudden weather change, I had to hurriedly take all the things inside. My poor lathe had got used to sleeping in the laundry, vertically.



That situation lasted more than seventeen years until we were ordered by housing department to be relocated almost two years ago.. Again the house, where I live now, is without garage. I could take any decision to move, but not giving up woodturning. I decided to build my first ever workshop.

I collected and bought some building materials and what I had of those materials dictated the size of my shop which maybe one of the smallest workshop in the world.

It is only 2 x1.8 square meter space and 2.4m high plus the attic. I call it The Lathe House and my wife calls it Your Cave.

It houses the lathe and sharpener and many small tools hanged around the three walls, the fourth wall is, almost, only door. It is obviously small but still enough to protect my lathe and myself from rain and harsh summer sun.

In reality, I have no choice, but I, honestly, love it for the protection it provides me and because it is a DIY project, I must love. Because I am interested in segmented turning (mostly but not only), I still use the back yard to cut hundreds of small pieces for my endless projects. Lately, I joined Airds / Bradbury Men's Shed and I do allot of cutting over there. This men's shed has been recently established and almost fully equipped and growing. I am trying to make the most advantages of the time I spend over there.

This is the story of my Lathe House.



A Man's gotta' have a dream, don't he???



Now when we consider which lathe to buy, generally the overriding factor is cost. But for those who may have recently won lotto or had a huge inheritance come their way and you wanted to know what the Rolls Royce of lathes looked like...well here it is The Oneway 2436. Ain't it a big mutha'All steel and seriously over-engineered, it will swing 24" above the bed and 36" between centres. Weighing in at a slim 850 lbs (385kg!!!) and a shy, retiring 5 feet in length. Speed is variable from 70 rpm to 3050 rpm, pretty much setting you up from pens to a small log. A steal from about \$6k US plus postage...although 850 lbs might be a tad expensive...I am sure that someone in Australia could import them from Canada for you, but as you just won lotto you probably don't care about the \$1500 freight charge...If you win lotto and buy one of these beasts, let us know!!!

I wrote some years ago about my workshop. I don't think I have met anyone since with a smaller space, or anyone else, like myself, who keeps their bandsaw in the guest bathroom, where the linen cupboard (surprise, surprise) is full of wood!

The floorspace in which I actually stand at my lathe is about one by one and a half meters, really. A small louvered window is facing. Behind me on a ledge is my grinder. To my left is a workbench with a small pedestal drill, and along the back of the bench are stacked two rows of plastic bins and drawers, which keep most of their contents free of dust. To my right is a very narrow shelf containing small items and boxes of bits and pieces. My tools are kept in a bucket on the floor, and fit into holes bored in the lid. The handles are marked so I know which is which. If I want to do some long-hole boring I have to remove all the besser blocks and timber on the shelf under my lathe, and rotate it ninety degrees, then I can actually stand in the adjacent laundry/bathroom to operate the auger.

I think it is very important to have good lighting. Apart from a neon strip in the (low) ceiling, I have a spotlight over the grinder, a separate lamp on the bench, and two other spotlights suspended from hooks in the ceiling, that can be manipulated by lengths of string to shine where I want them. I don't have room anywhere for an extractor fan or a compressor, so the brush and dustpan get a lot of use. I try to remember to use a mask when sanding

As Scott Rollo mentioned in the last Hand and Eye, the Teknatool 300 has its switch in a ridiculous place, so I had a new switch put in on the far right of my lathe, so that I'm well out of the way when starting up. That is a huge advantage, especially if I have a large burl to turn!

The only serious mishap I have had in 15 years occurred on the ONE occasion when I failed to check the lathe speed, and I was lucky that the flying debris missed me but the noise had the neighbours worried, they thought someone had been shot!

While at times I suffer pangs of envy when I see the space and equipment that some of you have, I reckon I don't do too badly in my little space, and if I need something I don't have I can always find it at my club!







Royal Easter Show Demonstrations

As one who has been involved in previous demonstrations and activities put together by the Guild over the past 20 years or so, I would just like to thank David King of Bankstown City Woodturners Guild for the success of the 14 days over which the Guild participated at the Sydney Royal Easter Show in April.

I have spoken with many of the other members who also attended the stand at the show, both to demonstrate and help out by talking to the public, and each one of them has been impressed with David's attention to detail, enthusiasm, coordination and organisation, over the fourteen days of the show. Also the way David looked after the pieces for display was impressive, and in the future, if David organises other demonstrations on behalf of the Guild, I for one, will have no hesitation in offering pieces to help make up the display.

Well done David, and on behalf of all Guild and affiliate members involved with the show, thank you.

Doug Midgley

Life Member SWTG.

Royal Easter Show Competition entries/winners



Keith Jones



Peter Christie



Mervyn Larsson/Paddi Thorpe



Paddi Thorpe



Tony Ney



Leslie Jaffrey



Paddi Thorpe



Keith Jones



Anthony Hancox

This is what will be the first of many tips and tricks from what is in my opinion, the finest tips and tricks site for the woodturner on the internet bar none. It is a wealth of knowledge and ideas that gives ideas on most of your requirements throughout your woodturning career. The name of this site is Laymar Crafts Woodturning http://www.laymar-crafts.co.uk/laymar_crafts-hints.htm and with the permission of the site owners Richard and Shiela Stapley you will see articles from their site in the By hand and Eye, We thanks them for their co-operation and generosity.

DUST COLLECTION:

In the Hints & Tips Section of this Web Site I describe a Dust Collection System I have made and here I try and analyse its effectiveness and also highlight what I think are the key areas and situations that determine what is the best way to trap and collect the Dust generated during Turning and Sanding.

Firstly the anatomy of Woodturning is different to any other major Dust Generator in the Workshop in as much as the Work piece, i.e. the Wood is in motion whereas with all other Woodworking Machines the Wood is, in principle, Static and it is the Machine Cutter that rotates.

Also we have a situation where the Work piece on a Lathe is open on all sides, there is no natural catchment chamber to which you can connect a Vacuum Extractor System as there is with most other Machines.

So what is our Objective? Primarily it has to be to protect ourselves from the Inhalation of Dust, if this is the case then surely a suitable Respirator is all we need, it must therefore also be for other reasons? in my case it is to have a near Dust Free Working Environment as possible.

I will also admit that I will often work at the Lathe without my Respirator in place, I know this is not good practice, but!!!, so therefore the best Dust Control I can achieve is desirable.

If we look at the things that are relevant and therefore perhaps understand why the Dust goes everywhere we do not want it to go we can perhaps better understand what our problem is.

Dust will dissipate throughout any Workshop as a result of:

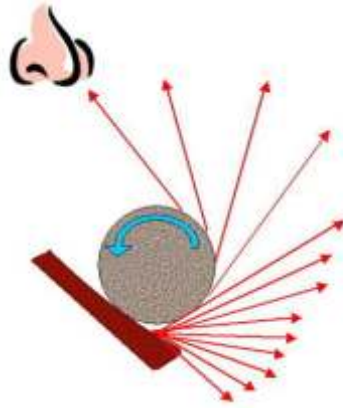
Airborne Dust carried in Air Currents whether Mechanically Generated i.e. with a Fan, or Thermally Generated due to the Draft that will be created by virtue of the fact that Hot Air rises and Cold Air falls i.e. Thermal Currents.

Dust from the Wood being Turned will be spread due to entrapment within the Shavings, Projection from the Tool, typically along the Flute of a Gouge and by Centrifugal Force directly off of the Spinning Wood.

Dust as a result of Sanding will follow a typical pattern which is primarily created by Centrifugal Force and as a result of the Coanda Effect.

And finally as we move around the Workshop or whenever we Dust ourselves down we disturb and spread some Dust.

In the illustration [Fig.1] below I show a typical situation that can be readily observed when Sanding, [this is best done whilst someone else does the sanding and you do the observing], which is perhaps the biggest single process for the production of Dust, in this illustration there is no Dust Extractor or Fan System in use this is just Sanding in natural conditions.



The actual projection and dissipation of the Dust will be dependent on many factors:-

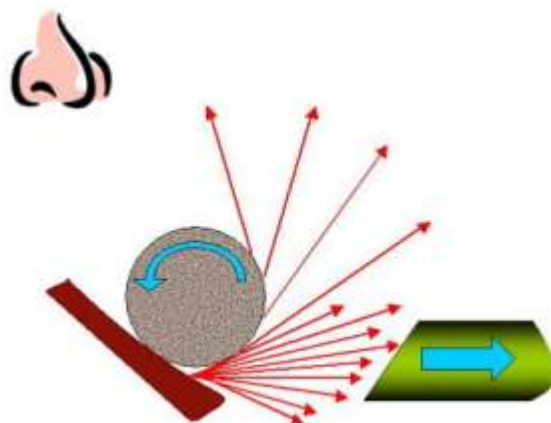
- Speed of the Lathe.
- Diameter of the Piece.
- Combined these two points above will give a "Tip Speed" at the point of contact.
- The Angle at which you apply the Abrasive, I tend to use the Abrasive at 8 O'clock.
- The Grit Size of the Abrasive which will determine the Dust Particle Size.
- The Pressure at which the Abrasive is applied.
- The Density of the Wood due to its type, e.g. Oak has a higher density than Pine.
- The Density of the Dust Particle due to the Wood Type and Grit Size of Abrasive.
- Other factors that will play a part are, Humidity, Position of Lathe relative to other surfaces etc.

As you can see there are 8 or 9 significant factors that you may have to consider if you are going to successfully Trap and Collect the Dust, which will disperse differently as anyone of the above changes.

In my case I can create a situation where the Dust will eject itself, into the surrounding space, with a wrap around of up to 2/3rds of the circumference of a Piece, this however can be controlled, to a degree, by Sanding with not too much pressure and at low speed, but such a combination is not always convenient or practical.

So what can we do? I like many purchased a Shavings/Dust Collector , the selection of which was based on it's Price rather than any knowledge of what it was really capable of, and the Sales Guy at the Store assured me it was OK for a Lathe? I now know otherwise.

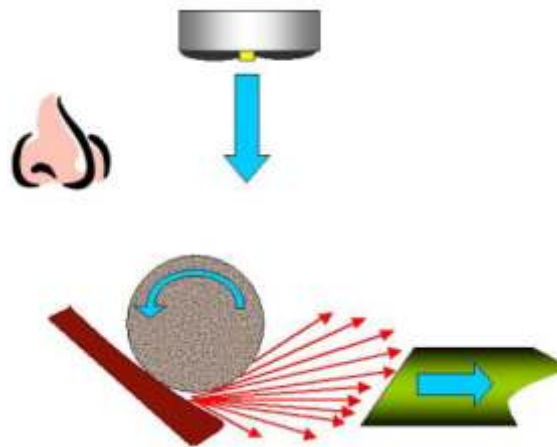
Here [Fig.2] I illustrate my observations with only the Dust Extractor System On, using my original Unit, as detailed in the Hints & Tips Section, which offers a more controlled Collector Nozzle than just the Flexible Hose that I was provided with the Unit.



You will see that the Dust Extractor has an influence on the Projection of the Dust with perhaps a maximum wrap of no more than half way around the Piece which is an improvement but it can be improved on.

Making the Nozzle larger is not necessarily the solution as you are relying on the Air Intake Velocity to draw the Dust in and by increasing the cross sectional area of the Nozzle you will reduce the Velocity and therefore pick up less Dust, although you may well catch slightly more of the Dust by virtue of the position of the larger Nozzle? it is a compromise situation.

In Fig.3 I show the results I have obtained from using the Low Level Dust Extractor Box and the Down Draft Fans above the Lathe, again see the Hints & Tips Section, this is giving me a far better Dust Catchment and although it could probably be improved by adding a more Powerful Dust Extractor and Downdraft Fans there would have to be a compromise with respect to Comfort and Noise.



The principle here is that as used in Air Curtains, typically as utilised in Clean Rooms, where the Air Curtain contains or limits the passage of a substance, in our case Dust, and forces it to change direction [downwards] to be picked up by the Dust Extractor.

If you can imagine the Fan in Fig.3 having a reversed Air Flow, as you may have with one of the Dust Filter Units, then it is obvious that a large portion of the Dust will be directed upward and away from the Extractor Nozzle and therefore in direct conflict with what you are actually attempting to do.

I feel I have a good balance with my system and would like to be able to quantify just how efficient it is, I was thinking of carrying out a series of tests based on the three scenarios above by measuring, probably by Weight, the amount of Dust deposited in and around the Workshop and the amount actually in the Dust Collection Bag of the Extractor.

This would be a worthwhile exercise, but I am not sure I have the time and the discipline to do such a study, perhaps a Student looking for a Final Year Project might take up the challenge.

As a guess I would say that with the system set up that I am using, when Sanding , then at least 75 to 80% of the Dust is caught and ends up in the Dust Extractor Bag therefore my Respirator has only to deal with a portion of the remainder, whilst the rest just gets everywhere.

I still strongly believe that a Good Respirator is the Best Solution for the Personnel Protection and Health Issues involved here and that anything additional is just a Bonus but certainly one that is worth investigating and investing in.

AN OIL FINISH:

Many Oils exist for use with Wood and like most Woodturners I have tried most of them all at one time or another, many I found unsuitable for my particular needs and others were either too time consuming or expensive (or both) or just too problematic to use.

Some years back I set about finding an Oil that was required to be Lightweight, Neutral in Colour and reasonably Priced, this Oil also needed to be Non-Toxic, Safe to use and store, whilst giving either a Natural Matt Finish which could then be brought to a Sheen Finish with a coating of Wax Polish.

Having experimented with some of the Nut Oils, (Walnut) with reasonable success, but at a relatively high cost and Food Oils such as Olive Oil and Corn Oil, which did not achieve the desired finish I was looking for, as well as having some useful life problems.

I was eventually introduced to Liquid Paraffin [aka Mineral Oil], which is perhaps better known for it's Medicinal uses, this Oil appeared to satisfy all of my initial requirements being a Lightweight Oil of Neutral Colour, therefore not masking the Wood in any way. In addition it was completely safe (providing you didn't drink it in too greater volume) to use and storage of the Oil and any Cloths or Abrasives used with the Oil is straight forward.

For those who have visited my Hints & Tips section you would have noted the reference to this Oil, where I describe the use of "Blusher Brushes" as Mops and the simple Storage Method I use.

The one problem you may experience is in fact buying this reasonably priced Oil, if you buy it from the Chemists you will each time get a lecture on just how much you can take and also be restricted to one ¼ liter bottle. I gave up trying to explain that I was not going to Ingest, it but use it to polish Wood, and then when they began recognising me at the counter I decided it was time to find an alternative supply.

So the Chemist is the nearest supplier you will find if you want a small amount and a lecture, some of the Woodturning Suppliers do have it on the shelf but not on a consistent basis, I found my source at the local Farm Suppliers in particular those catering for Horse Owners who use it for their Horses (I assume). I purchase it in a 5 litre container for approximately half the cost of the 20 bottles you would have to buy at the Chemist's (think of all those lectures and looks).

I apply the Oil to the bare and finished Wood, generally I use this finish on Burr Elm and Oak plus standard Elm and Oak as well as Yew, Walnut, Red Gum and Jarrah etc. etc., using a Mop to apply a liberal coating which is allowed to soak in for approximately 5 to 10 minutes depending on the porosity of the Wood. Often where you have a Burr you will have areas that absorb the Oil much quicker than in other areas, if this is the case then I will re-coat these areas as soon as it is seen that the Oil has been fully absorbed.

I then wipe the surfaces of the Piece using Kitchen Towel (or any suitable absorbent material) to remove any excess Oil prior to "Wet" sanding the surface of the item.

Wet Sanding is carried out with the Lathe running, at the highest speed you feel happy with, using my standard cloth backed Abrasive (400 grit) or Wet n Dry Paper, to finish off the piece, generally I will continue sanding until all signs of the Oil have disappeared from both the Wood and the Abrasive.

This method of finishing using the Wet n Dry principle is not new, but the one benefit you get with using Liquid Paraffin is that it is not Self Igniting, which can be the case with some other Oils (generally those with Chemical Dryers added). I have only one piece of Abrasive in use and I keep this in an old Jam Jar with a screw lid to keep it clean, on average this probably lasts for a year but I am not consciously keeping a record of this.

After checking the work for any obvious signs of marks from the Abrasives, which will require further work to remove, I apply another thin coat of Oil which is immediately wiped off, again using a suitable Paper Towel.

If I require the final finish to be Matt then the process is now complete, other than checking after 24 hours to see if the item would benefit from an additional light coating of Oil. However if I want more of a Sheen type finish then I apply a coat of Wax Polish which is allowed to harden before being buffed to a finish.

I have used a number of Waxes over the years, Bison Wax, Bri-Wax and even a Beeswax Balm to name a few, all have given me the result I am looking for, although I now use exclusively Bison Wax, simply because at the end of the day you can only have so many tins / jars of polish on the shelf.

You can at this point add some Colour enhancement to the work with the choice of Wax, using either the Clear or Natural Shades up to the much darker Mahogany or Elm Shades.

This Finish has served me well for a number of years and only requires a single coating of either Oil (Matt finished items) or Wax Polish once or twice a year to rejuvenate the appearance of the Vase, Bowl or whatever I've used the finish on.

I have not experimented much to see if additional coatings of the Oil, or longer times between coats are beneficial and I would be, as I'm sure others would, interested to hear of your experiences with this or your variant of the finish described.

Ernie Newman's Woodturners Quiz No.112 - The Questions

1. In an earlier quiz I asked, "In which country is the oldest tree in the world?" The answer was Australia and the tree, a Huon Pine on Mt Read in Tasmania, was thought to be about 10 000 years old. Since then I have learned that this tree is actually a colony of trees, a clonal tree. It covers about a hectare but the oldest single organism in the stand is only about 3900 years old, a mere stripling. This stand vies for the title of the world's oldest clonal tree with a 9,500 year old stand of Norway Spruce in Sweden and a stand of 47 000 Quaking Aspens in the USA which may be far older.

So, in what continent is the world's oldest non clonal [single organism] tree: Africa, North America, Australasia?

2. Which American turner, famous for turning multi-centre, joke baseball bats which sell for prices which are no joke, is coming to the Australia in October 2011? Clue: His first name is Mark and he and Canadian, Mike Hosaluk, pioneered the collaborative movement in the 1980s and 90s whereby a number of people work on one piece of wood art.

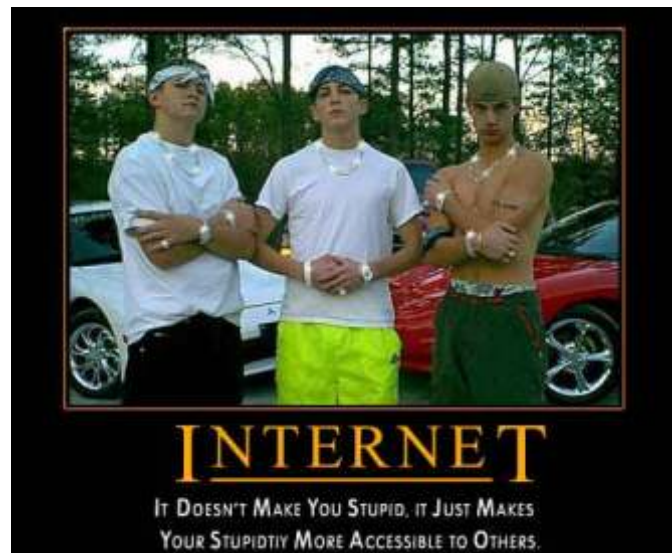
3. Is there any point in wearing ear protection while using noisy woodworking machines if you are already a bit deaf?

4. Can a spokeshave be used to smooth a cylindrical piece held between centres on the lathe?

5. Who invented the treadle lathe? Clue: He also designed a machine which foreshadowed the helicopter and he painted the Mona Lisa.

1. One of the oldest individual organism, non-clonal, trees is the Great Bristlecone Pine. One tree in California, known as Methuselah, is 4800 years old and another from Nevada, called Prometheus, lived to 4900 years of age. Baobab trees in Africa are thought to live even longer. A Sunland Baobab, has had its age carbon dated to approximately 6000 years.
2. Mark Sfirri from Pennsylvania will be in Australia in October. Mark will demonstrate for the Blue Mountains Woodturners Club on Wednesday October 5. See their website for images of his work and demo details.
3. Thousands of woodworkers will tell you that they don't wear ear protection while using noisy woodworking machines because they are already a bit deaf. Their doctors will tell you different but hey, thousands of smart woodworkers can't be wrong. Right?
4. A spokeshave can be used to smooth a cylindrical piece held between centres. It isn't ideal but, if sharp and held at a 45 degree angle to the workpiece, it can do the job. Sometimes it is dangerous to use tools that are designed for other purposes but in this case the risks are low. Of course the skew chisel is usually the tool of choice for this exercise.
5. The treadle lathe was invented by Leonardo da Vinci. It had two great advantages over earlier lathes. First, the work could be rotated towards the turner continuously unlike the stop - start motion of pole and bow lathes. Second, unlike the great wheel lathe, no assistant was required.

The Back Page...



Quite a number of years ago, I read a story about “The Laziest Man on Earth”. It is a short 5-page vignette included in “Time Enough For Love” by Robert Heinlein, intended to be an amusing reinforcement to the overall plot and characters of the book, and also to display another one of Heinlein’s, shall we say, “unusual” perspectives on the human condition.

The basic contradiction of the “Laziest Man” is the conflict between our Work Ethic and human reality. The Work Ethic encourages “hard work” as the surest avenue to success and wealth. But human beings actually hate “hard work”, generally try to avoid it, and grizzle about it when they’re forced into it. In other words, our society considers laziness to be “morally corrupt”, but, in reality, almost everyone would prefer to be as lazy as possible, as long as they don’t have to admit to it.

The solution to this contradiction, from Heinlein’s viewpoint, is that you can be lazy by using your mind, rather than your muscles. The “Laziest Man” spent most of his time in a hammock, doing “nothing”... but he got there and stayed there by continually inventing something that everyone needed. Think about windshield wipers on a car, or the transistor, or artificial rubber for shoes, or blood-pressure medicine. These are the type of inventions that allow human society to survive “better” than previously and, for one reason or another, become “essential” to the way we live. Heinlein was saying it is all right to be lazy... if you are clever and choose to “work hard” at what you are good at, rather than just be subject to “hard work”.

This idea has stuck in my mind, not only because as a teenager I was constitutionally inclined to be lazy (and still am, when I can get away with it...), but also because the various employers during my career were quite happy to see my willingness to “work hard” as being merely “hard work” from their perspective. Too often I saw them in the hammock, rather than myself. So much for our Work Ethic.

When it comes to Woodturning, I have repeatedly confirmed that knowledge, skill and advance planning are more important than “hard work”. When I started turning, I bought a bowl gouge, a skew chisel, a parting tool... and three scrapers. My first bowls were “finished” using scrapers. I couldn’t understand why it took me a full day to do one bowl, and why I never seemed to get a “glass” surface. All my books and reading did not teach me “muscle memory” or control. I was willing to “work hard”, but I didn’t understand how my tools should work, and therefore, I wasn’t able to avoid the “hard work”.

The first time I managed to put a good burr on my scrapers was a revelation. Not only did I get a better surface, it also took me half the time to complete the bowl! But that wasn’t anything compared to the epiphany when I learned how to control my bowl gouge, and discovered that the scrapers were really only necessary in the last pass or two. I didn’t have to use them to reduce the last 5 mm in order to produce the proper ogee curve of a graceful tulip edge. That thin bowls were possible... and after that... that they were not necessary to produce “something beautiful”. That the shape was my decision... not a decision that was based on the quality and “ease” of the wood.

And then, when I retired, and after 15 years of turning, I took lessons from Mike Darlow who taught me the right way to use all my tools. Is there a word that goes beyond epiphany? Sorry, Mike. I still don’t use them the right way every single time. That’s because I’m still lazy, but I’m certainly doing a lot better than before. And I can see that doing it the right way will do it better and faster... once I do get the skill level up.

I continue to learn, and to practice my craft. I continue to use scrapers, because there are places where nothing else will suit (have you ever tried to put a square bottom at the inside base of a box with a bowl gouge or a parting tool? Good luck!), but I no longer use them for hard work... I use them to enjoy my laziness.

Here is a short list of Woodturning sites that will get us started with links to some very useful sites. If you have any links you would like to contribute send them to guildnewsletter@exetel.com.au
<http://www.sydneywoodturners.com.au/> our homepage

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

<http://www.laymar-crafts.co.uk/> Huge site with literally hundreds of useful links – highly recommended!

<http://www.trendtimbers.com.au/> large variety of timber, tools, lathes and finishes

<http://anagote.com/> great site for wood

<http://www.carbatec.com.au> one stop shop for most woodworking varieties

<https://www.machineryhouse.com.au/> Hare and Forbes machinery

<http://www.addictivepenkits.com.au/> amazing pen kits with an impressive site

<http://aroundthewoods.com/> excellent site for beginner and advanced turner alike

<http://www.woodturningonline.com/> incredible site with literally hundreds of articles

<http://www.woodturner.org/> The American association of Woodturners

<http://mgorrow.tripod.com/links2.html> mega link to over 500 sites!

<http://www.woodturners.co.uk/> link to most UK based clubs & links

<http://www.woodturnersresource.com/> a great resource for the woodturner

<http://www.hiltonhandcraft.com/> a useful site for turners

http://ornamentalturning.net/articles/more_woodturning_magazine.html one stop shop for ornamental turners

<http://www.woodturningdesign.com/> Woodturning magazine site.

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~pwguild/> Mornington Peninsula site in Victoria

<http://www.woodturningvideosplus.com/index.html> very good site by a pro turner

<http://www.bigtreeturnings.com/> Professional turner site from America with some useful stuff

<http://www.rockler.com> Supplier of everything you'll ever need (in US dollars)

<http://www.penturners.org/> American site for the pen turner fraternity – most comprehensive

<http://www.woodworkforums.com> an enormous forum for everything wood and more

<http://www.woodturns.com/resources/woodturning.htm> a useful resource for the turner

<http://yoyospin.com> great site for tutorials and how to videos with focus on craft items

GUILD MEETINGS

Guides Hall, Waldron Rd Chester Hill			
Month	Committee	Bi-Monthly	Time & Cost
January	31	—	—
March	28	Macarthur 27th	TBA
May	30	Western 15th	TBA
July	25	Sthn Highlands	TBA
September	26	Nth Beach 18th	TBA
November AGM	28	Bankstown 5th	TBA
All guild meetings 18:30 till finish President Bill Black 9541 2405			

HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC.

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

BANKSTOWN CITY WOODTURNERS INC.

Guides Hall, Waldron Rd Chester Hill	
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>
Jan TBC	Jan TBC
Feb TBC	Feb TBC
Mar TBC	Mar TBC
Apr 2	Apr 12
May 7	May 10
Jun 3	Jun 14
Jul 4	Jul 12
Aug 6	Aug 9
Sep 3	Sep 13
Oct 1	Oct 11
Nov 5	Nov 8
Dec 3	Dec 13
Saturdays 0800 - 1600 Tuesdays 1800 - 2100 President Kevin Santwyck 9644 8366	

MACARTHUR WOODTURNERS INC.

Robert Townson High School Shuttleworth Ave Raby(maxi only)	
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>
Jan 30	
Feb 27	Feb 9
Mar 27	Mar 9
Apr none	Apr 13
May 1 & 29	May 11
Jun 26	Jun 15
Jul 31	Jul 13
Aug 28	Aug 10
Sep 25	Sep 14
Oct 30	Oct 12
Nov 27	Nov 9
Dec 3 Xmas party	Dec none
Sunday Maxi 0945 - 1500 cost \$5 Wednesday Mini 1100 - 1430 Mini meetings at 48 Engesta Ave Sth Camden President Paul Kruss 9823 8340	

EASTERN REGION WOODTURNERS INC.

Unit 16, 14 Anderson St. Banksmeadow	
<u>Sunday</u>	
Jan 16	
Feb 6	
Mar 6	
Apr 3	
May 1	
Jun 5	
Jul 3	
Aug 7	
Sep 11	
Oct 9	
Nov 6	
Dec 4	
Sundays 1000 - 1530 President Graham Tilly 9660 3071	

MENAI REGION WOODTURNERS INC.

Menai High School Gerald Rd. Illawong
Tuesday
Jan
Feb 8
Mar N/A
Apr 19
May 10
Jun 14
Jul 19
Aug 16
Sep 13
Oct 11
Nov 15
Dec 6
Tuesdays 1800 - 2100 President Bruce Houldin 9542 1087

NORTHERN BEACHES WOODTURNERS INC.

Narrabeen RSL Club Nareen Pde North Narrabeen		
Sunday	Tuesday Workshop	Friday Workshop
Jan	25	28
Feb 20	1,8,15,22	4,11,18,25
Mar 20	1,8,15,22,29	4,11,18,25
Apr 17	5,12,19,26	1,8,15,29
May 22	3,10,17,24,31	6,13,20,27
Jun 26	7,14,21,28	3,10,17,24
Jul 17	5,12,19,26	1,8,15,22,29
Aug 21	2,9,16,23,30	5,12,19,26
Sep 18	6,13,20,27	2,9,16,23,30
Oct 23	4,11,18,25	7,14,21,28
Nov 20	1,8,15,22,29	4,11,18,25
Dec 11	6,13,20	2,9,16,23
Sundays 0900 - 1400 Workshops 0900 - 1200 President Jack Butler 9999 4290		

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS WOODYIES INC.

Harbison Care Villiage cnr Moss Vale Rd.& Charlotte St. Burradoc	
Saturday	Friday
Jan 11,18, 25	Jan 14, 21 28
Feb 1,8,15,22	Feb 4,11,18,25
Mar 1,8,15,22,29	Mar 4,11,18,25
Apr 5,12,19,26	Apr 1,8,15,22,29
May 3,10,17,24,31	May 6,13,20,27
Jun 7,14,21,28	Jun 3,10,17,24
Jul 5,12,19,26	Jul 1,8,15,22,29
Aug 2,9,16,23,30	Aug 5,12,19,26
Sep 6,13,20,27	Sep 2,9,16,23,30
Oct 4,11,18,25	Oct 7,14,21,28
Nov 1,8,15,22,29	Nov 4,11,18,25
Dec TBC	Dec TBC
Saturdays 1000 - 1630 Wednesday/Friday 0830 - 1230 Pls call for Wed/Fri to confirm meeting President Roger Wilson 02 4862 3175	

SOUTHERN REGION WOODTURNERS INC.

"Cubbyhouse" Como Road Oyster Bay (opp. Scylla Rd.)							
	Wednes. Mini Day	Wednes. Mini Nite	Work Shop Meetng	Saturday Maxi Days	Thurs. Mini Day	Tue/Wed toy/f'ship Day	Special Events
Jan	5	12	10	15	20	25 only	
Feb	2	9	14	19**	24	22-23	Bi-Monthly @ Southern **
Mar	2	9	14	19	24	22-23	
Apr	6	13	11	16	21	27only	
May	4	11	16	21	26	24-25	Oyster Bay Skool Fete
Jun	1	8	14 Tuesday	25** 4th Sat.	23	28-29	17,18,19 WWWS
Jul	6	13	11	16	21	26-27	
Aug	3	10	15	20AGM	25	23-24	A.G.M Craft Show 27-28
Sep	7	14	12	17	22	27-28	
Oct	5	12	10	15	20	25-26	
Nov	2	9	14	19	24	22-23	Xmas party Nov. 27th
Dec	7	14	12	17	-	-	
Maxi days Saturday 0900 - 1500 cost \$6 Mini Days both 0900 - 1500 cost \$3 Mini nite 1800 - 2100 cost \$3 Toy/Friendship days 0900 - 1400 no cost President Keith Moses 9528 8885							

WESTERN SYDNEY WOODTURNERS INC.

Twin Gums retreat, Cnr Northcott Road & Dianne Drive Lalor Park					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Jan	10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28
Feb 20	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22	2,9,16,23	3,10,17,24	4,11,18,25
Mar 20	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25
Apr 17	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29
May 15	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27
Jun 19	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24
Jul 17	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,15,22,29
Aug 21	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26
Sep 18	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30
Oct 16	3,10,17,24,31	4,11,18,25	5,12,19,26	6,13,20,27	7,14,21,28
Nov 20	7,14,21,28	1,8,15,22,29	2,9,16,23,30	3,10,17,24	4,11,18,25
Dec 18	5,12,19	6,13,20	7,14,21	1,8,15,22	2,9,16,23

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays: 0930 - 1530
Fridays: 1900 - 2100
President Eddie Catford 9837 3311
Ladies days are held regularly organised by Anna Dawes 9638 6995

IN THE SHOP

WOODTURNING JACKETS \$40 POST \$5
 Bottle Green, short sleeved with Velcro neck closure. Keep the shavings where they belong

GUILD CAPS discounted to \$5.00 POST \$2.50
 Wear backwards - become a turner with attitude!

CLOTH BADGES AND ENAMEL BADGES \$5.00
 Order from: Treasurer, Greg Croker on
 9498 2350

Once again at our April and May Saturday meetings, (first Saturday every month) we had our usual good turnout of 20-30 active and interested members, and as usual, we had to queue up to use a lathe.

Jose', our resident segmented expert, had been busy in the intervening time, and we are now proud owners of a large display board that is permanently mounted in the hall, and already partly covered with photographs of some of our members' work.

This was done after seeking and receiving permission from the governing body of the hall to put a "gallery" board in place.

Thank you Jose', from all our members, and our committee.

Our show and tell segment of our days have been well supported, and it is really good to see our newer members bringing along their finished pieces to show other members.

Show and tell should not be viewed as a competition, but as a chance to talk (either in private or in public) about the piece, its difficulties, its design, its finish, etc, and also ask for advice from others if that is what you want. Everyone can learn something from someone else, no matter how long they have been turning.

At our May meeting, the members discussed the pros and cons of the name of our group, Bankstown Region Woodturners Inc. After much discussion, and input from many of those present, a decision was made that since we are all autonomous bodies affiliated with the Sydney Woodturners Guild Inc., that from now on we will be known as BANKSTOWN CITY WOODURNERS GUILD INC.

Our submission was made as we wish to identify more strongly with the local community in which we operate, whose hall we use for our meetings, and generally with the community from which we daw most of our members.

When permission was sought from the local Bankstown City Council to use the city's name in our new name, the council was most eager for us to do so.

The necessary paperwork with Fair Trading has been completed, and from May 6, 2009 this group is known as BANKSTOWN CITY WOODTURNERS GUILD INC.





To: Scott Rollo
From: Bill Kelly (Eastern Region Rep.)

Date: 6th May 2011

Hi Scott'

Enclosed are some photos of items displayed at our meetings held on the first Sunday of each month, on long week ends we meet on the following Sunday. We hold our meetings in the workshops of different members and find this a unique way of meeting their family members and also their household pets, (so far no one has been savaged by a pit bull.) The bloke in the blue shirt behind the yellow lathe is our Irish member Gerry Brady Snr. Who attended last years "Train the Trainer" course and is putting his remarkable skills to good use to a couple of L Platers in his garage while his car is left to the vagaries of the elements. The items displayed are part of our "Show and Tell" section and includes an explanation of the timber used and the finish applied to the item. One of our members, Mario Dato, shoe maker extraordinaire was commissioned to make the shoes for the Governor General when she attended the Royal Wedding.

Chau. Bill.





HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC

NEWSLETTER for MARCH 2011

(Bert Gude)

A fine warm day saw 19 members gather at Annangrove for our monthly meeting who were welcomed by Lindsay Skinner, and informed that today we would be covering the usage of epoxy glue, resins and polymers. Also that Anna Dawes would be demonstrating how these products need to be mixed ready for use.



Then a special presentation was made by Lindsay to Ian Irwin who was made the group's first Life Member, to acknowledge his long and continuous service and support to the group. Lindsay presented Ian with a special name badge. Ian thanked and expressed his appreciation to the group.



The S & T segment commenced with Russell Pinch showing a bowl the outside of which had been turned from a piece of timber the genus of which was unknown. Some members mentioned it may be FOG wood (Found On Ground).

Lloyd Thomas had been given a Blackbutt fence post the top of which had been turned into a bottle. The turning had gone somewhat discoloured owing to the lacquer used as a finish. Lloyd had agreed to clean up the turning. However several accidents that occurred during the process had to be repaired using super glue.



Tulip wood was used by Ed Utick to turn "something from nothing" it was a paper weight showing plenty of colour and pattern. Ed had also turned a ship's steering wheel using Red Cedar; the wheel had a tile plate inserted into the central hub depicting a sailing ship.

Elwyn Muller had been busy turning an oval bowl from a Jacaranda tree branch that had been finished using lacquer. He had also turned a wave bowl from American Oak as well as a bowl from Claret Ash, both of these bowls will be on display in the timber exhibition at the R.A.S.

Lindsay showed a still life comprising of a Champagne bottle, drinking vessels and biscuits on a serving tray all of which had been made from timber.

Greg Croker mentioned that the Blue Mountains Challenge meeting would be held on the 2nd Saturday in April. Also that the R.A.S. which will be held for 14 days is still looking for turned items to

exhibit and that the Hand & Eye is now available on the web.

After lunch, Lindsay discussed the use of epoxy in woodturning and made the following points:

- When using epoxy apply turps first to the section or groove as this will draw the epoxy down into the timber.
- To eliminate air bubbles forming in the epoxy use a product called Glass Coat Epoxy sealer.
- Epoxy may not be as versatile as resins. Need a good air flow when using either as well as protective head and hand gear.
- Need a fast lathe speed and extremely sharp tools when turning epoxy, when sanding start with a 400 grit and work upwards.
- When gluing together veneers use epoxy glue (H series) don't use PVA as this is water based and will be absorbed by the veneer.



- Epoxy can be used to fill in voids in turning and cracks in burls, by mixing in the fine sanding dust from the turned items with epoxy to get a good colour match.
- To embellish a platter or a bowl, cut a groove on the rim or edge of the turned item. Paint the inside of the groove with a black dye and then stick in pieces of Paua shell or any other small items using super glue and then fill with clear epoxy.
- Plant leaves can also be used to lift and brighten the turned platter. But a word of warning, don't leave the finished item in the sun as sunlight will turn the leaves brown in colour through photosynthesis.
- Also one can use metal filings in epoxy to create one off turnings.
- To preserve excess epoxy, store in a plastic container to achieve an air tight seal rub Vaseline around the rim and inside the lid to get an airtight seal.

Lindsay passed around for members to examine many examples of turned items where epoxy had been used as a filler or as an enhancement to the turned item.

Anna Dawes then demonstrated the process of mixing epoxy and its application, making the following observations:



- When using epoxies read the instructions carefully not all epoxies are the same with respect to the quantities and or ratios to be mixed. If done incorrectly there are risks of getting a chemical or heat burn.
- Also don't mix epoxies in glass containers use only plastic containers.
- When holding timber together in order to fill in gaps, don't use masking tape instead use gaffer tape. Masking tape will deteriorate when coming into contact with epoxy.
- To add colour to epoxy use only oil based paints such as "Mont Marta", Kaiser or Jo Zanta brands.
- When getting ready to mix together the two parts of epoxy, have paper towel, dowels for mixing ready and also wear protective clothing and plastic gloves.

- Don't mix epoxy and resins together under any circumstance.
- When filling small holes or gaps the epoxy can be applied using a syringe. Olive oil can be used to moisturise the rubber section of the plunger.



- Epoxy 69 mixed 50/50 will achieve a creamy colour by adding pigments to match up the colour of the timber this is a good mixture for fixing voids and joints in chairs. However for inlay work use an epoxy mix that is clear in colour.



The use of epoxy is a whole new world for turners.

Our thanks to both Anna and Lindsay for a very informative meeting. Keep Turning

POST SCRIPT. A photo of Brendon Venner, February's demonstrator, showing the finale of his turned balustrade.

This shot shows the completed turned sections and the jig set-up on the lathe to achieve the tapered sections, using a router.



Firstly let me say I've been out of touch with what's happening at Macarthur for several weeks. I do know that the members voted to spend \$8000 on a new tool trailer that will be specifically built to a standard agreed to by the Committee. This trailer should last for a very long time and will make it easier for members to access all the equipment needed for our regular meetings and all those demonstrations of which we are known.

I only came back from holidays on 11th May to find we were invited to attend a ladies night at Narellan Bunnings on 12th and another demonstration on 14th at Campbelltown Bunnings. From all reports the ladies night went very well with a lot of interest from the public in joining us. Again there was a lot of interest from the public on 14th where I did attend. Thanks to all those members who partook.

Coming Events

Wednesday 15th June will see us at Franks place, 48 Engesta Ave., South Camden, for a mini meeting from 11am till 2:30pm

Sunday 26th June will see us once again at The Robert Townson High School, Shuttleworth Ave. Raby for our maxi meeting from 9:45am till around 3pm.

Wednesday 13th July – Once again there will be a mini meeting at Franks place.

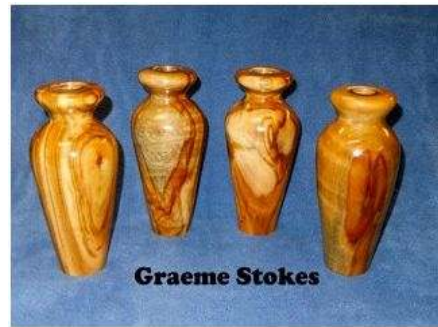
Sunday 17th July we will be hosting a BBQ at Bunnings, Cross Roads. If members could see their way clear to help, even for a few hours, we would be very appreciative.

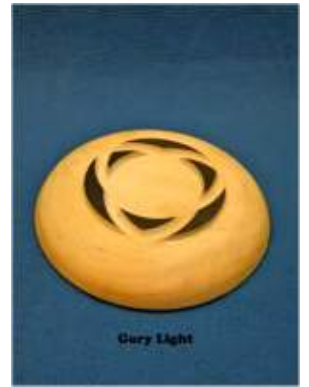
Saturday 23rd July we will be hosting a BBQ at Bunnings, Narellan. Once again if members could see their way clear to help, even for a few hours, we would be very appreciative.

Sunday 25th July will see us, once again, at The Robert Townson High School, Shuttleworth Ave. Raby for our maxi meeting from 9:45am till around 3pm.

Keep Turning
Chris









Max Donato: Lidded bowl, ceramic lid, PNG rosewood – 2nd ginkgo



Roger Willson: Lidded bowl, silky oak



Bob Miller: Lidded bowls, ceramic lid (left), ceramic knob (right), jackaranda (l) & weep-



Jim Powell: Lolly pot, lebanese cedar



Bill Bailey: Tea Caddy, oregon



Ian Pye: Lidded bowl, jackaranda



John Crisp: Lidded bowl, rosewood



Fred S: Wall hanging, various



John Harris: Stout bird, beena



John Powell: Short legged warbler, beena & pot pourri, myrtle



John Harris: Bowl, texturing, cryptomania, & ring stand, blue gum, braz mahogany



Simon Briggs: Bowl, back fence





Simon Briggs: Bowl, Natural edge bowl, elm



Alex Walker: Dog bowl, PNG rosewood



Steve Walker: Practice bowl



Bill Shean: Cheeseboard, Aust Cedar - bowl with ceramic base, jarrah - lidded bowl, sheoak

Ian Pye: Table legs, silky oak

Wood-eze

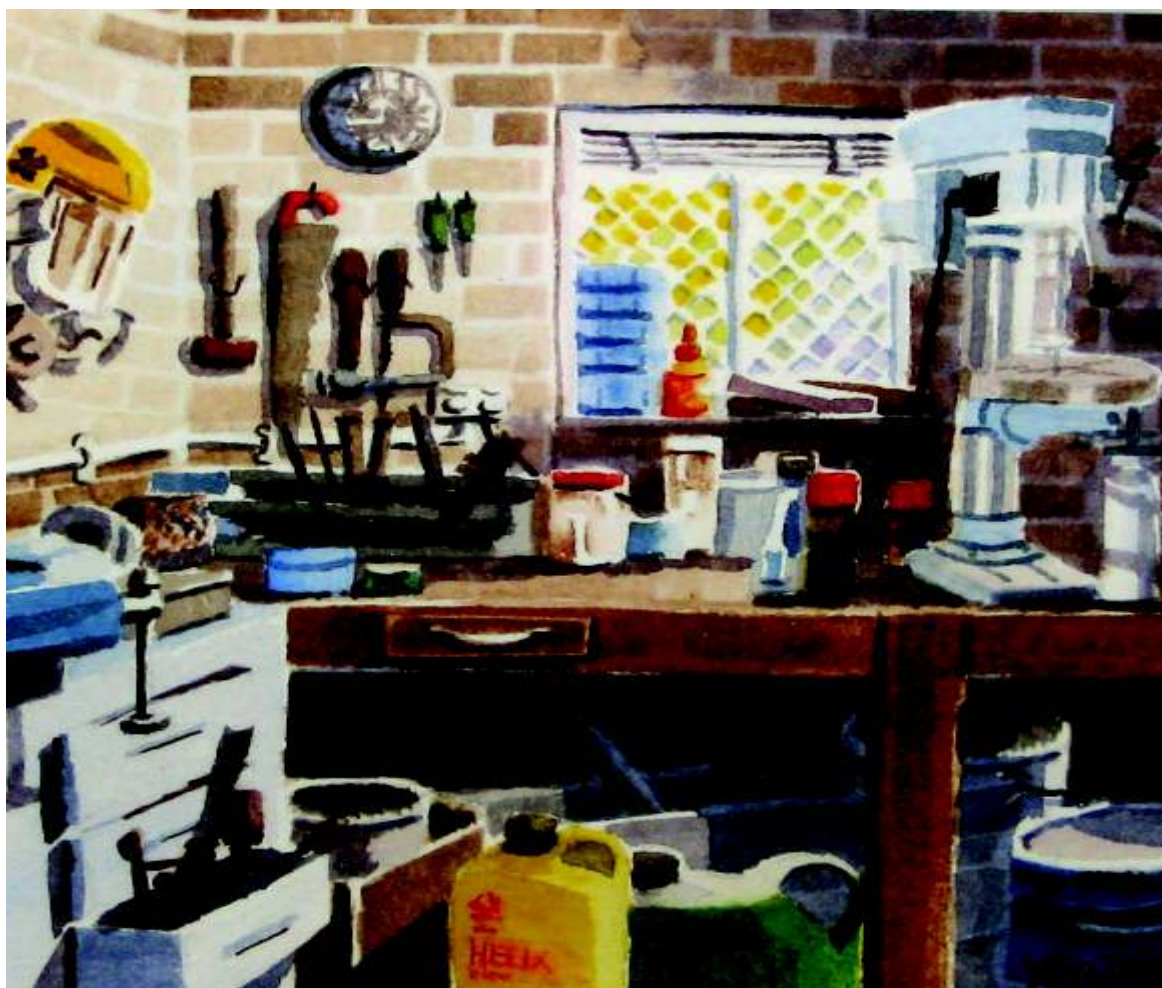
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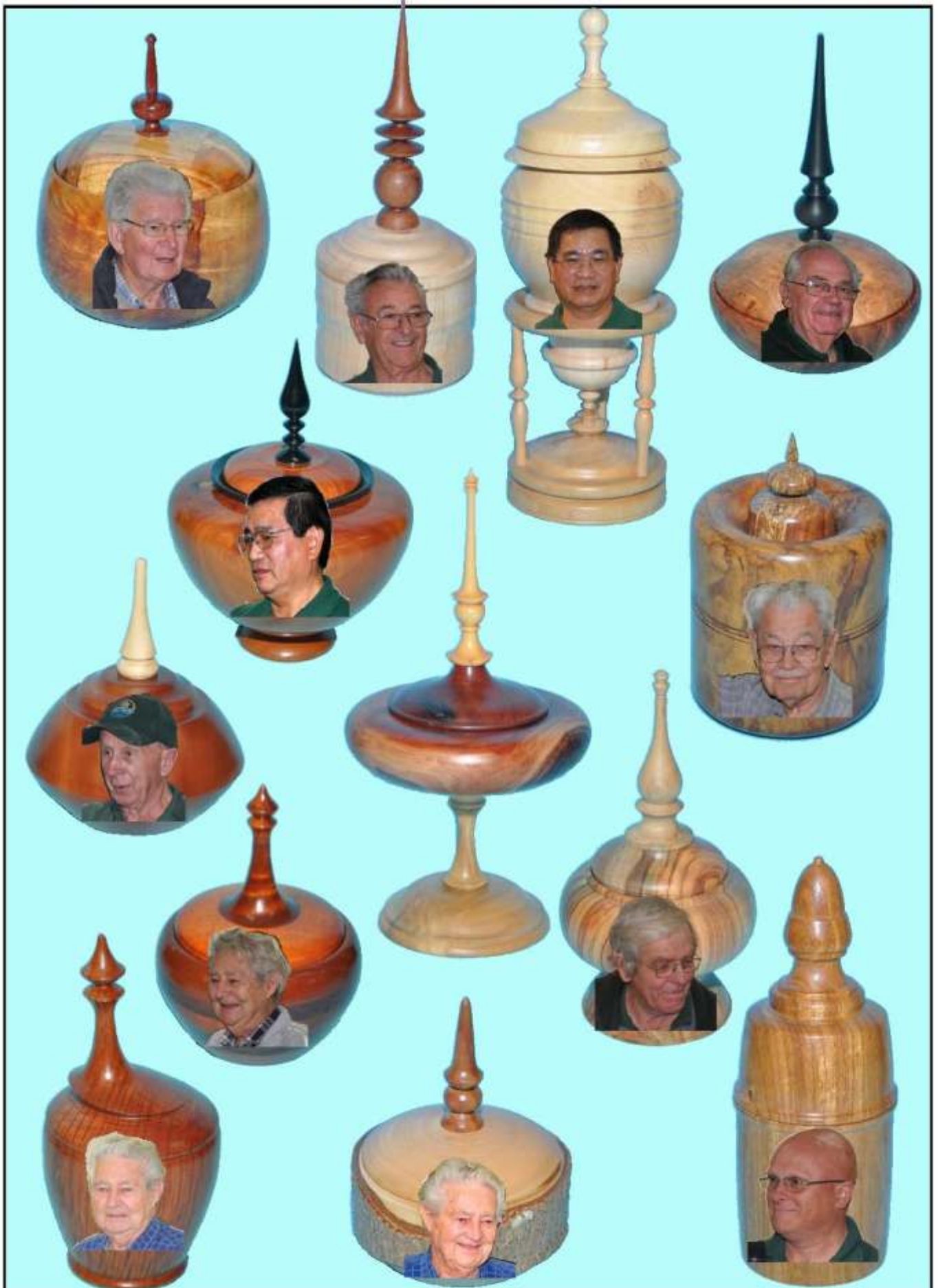


THE WORKSHOP

Yvonne Ferguson

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Show and Tell - Finial Lidded Boxes



Jack shows us there is nothing wrong with being square...



Simply jamb the square block of timber between centres.....



Using a parting tool to shape a spigot for the chuck.....



Ready to chuck up..... Oh and watch out for you fingers.....



Mount the block in the chuck and start turning the base.....



Shape the outside of the bowl until you reach the desired effect.....



Reverse chuck the blank and your ready to start on the inside.....



Keep shaping the inside until you reach the desired wall thickness.....



Bowl finished and ready to sand and polish.



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All submissions will be gratefully accepted. Original photos will be returned but we prefer soft copies if available. Please submit articles in PDF, Word or text files.