



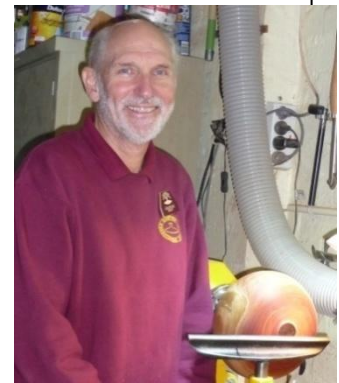
VOL 8/15

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

August 2015

I hope you all enjoyed our full day demonstration session last month. Brendon Stemp provided an array of useful tips, some interesting project ideas and surely confirmed that many of your own techniques are inline with best practice. Thanks to Jim Pagonis who provided good tucker all day.

The Guild supports two main charity activities each year. In August we provide toys for children with cancer who attend Camp Quality as a break from hospital etc. These toys are painted by the kids and I am sure adds some value and joy to their precious time at the camp. I believe that supporting valuable charities such as this is a key cornerstone of the Guild, adding value back to the local community.



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Our August meeting includes the AGM. Please consider nominating for a committee position. New people with fresh ideas are important for the ongoing vitality of the Guild. I take this opportunity to thank the outgoing committee for doing a great job over the past year for the Guild.

After the AGM we will review your gadgets and jigs and special purpose tools that you have created. This is always an interesting activity each year and highlights your ingenuity. So dig them out and bring them along.

Don't forget to also bring your recent creations for Show and Tell. Items that did not come out as planned, but have lessons for us are also welcome to the mix. A "blast from the past" type item is also always welcome.

With spring approaching its that time of year for our external demos. The first is at Schwerkolt Cottage on 13th September. Put the date in your diary and volunteer to be a part of the day's activity.

"Don't worry about failures, worry about the chances you miss when you don't even try." – Jack Canfield

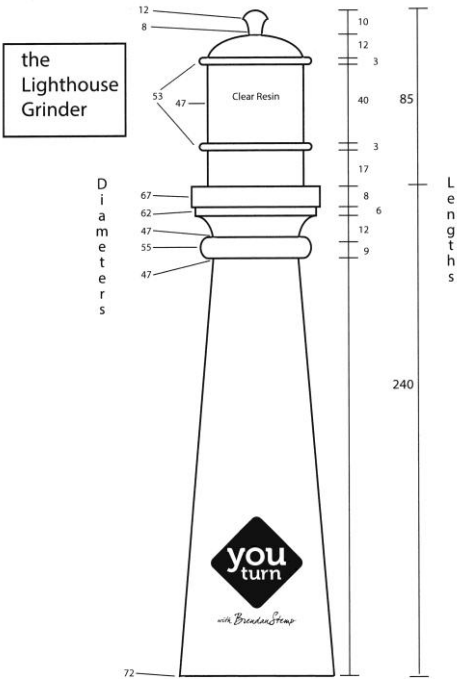
ALL DAY DEMONSTRATION BY BRENDON STEMPT

Yet another great turnout for our all day demo with around 35 members and guests attending. This year we had Brenda Stemp who travelled all the way from his home at McKenzie Creek to beguile us with his outstanding turning skills. Brendon began by thanking the Guild for the invitation and said that in his opinion it was a great benefit in clubs such as ours to invite professional turners to demonstrate and to gain advantage from their experience by introducing new techniques and challenges.



The Lighthouse lamp

Brendan's lighthouse lamp developed from his lighthouse pepper grinder as a use for strip LEDs that he had on hand. The design is based on the Aries Inlet lighthouse.



A blank is prepared of 100mm square stock around 400mm in length. Around 100mm is cut off and laid aside for the lighthouse top. The body blank is loaded onto the lathe between centres and turned to a 75mm cylinder with a spindle roughing gouge. He takes small cuts with the tool presented at 45° to the rotation. Brendon's roughing gouge has the wings ground back in a similar fashion to an Elsworth grind.



The body's top features are marked out and the top of the taper is brought down to size (47mm) using a parting tool and the vernier. The taper is then refined using the roughing gouge.



The taper is finished using a skew in shear cut mode. As can be seen in the photo at left, Brendon prefers to use the skew with the long point down which is contrary to the norm. He feels that he has better control and gets a cleaner cut with this method due to pushing rather than pulling the skew.



Once the ramp is completed the rest of the features can be brought to depth using a parting tool and vernier. Brendan uses a cheap vernier which has had the jaws rounded and thinned on a grinder so that it doesn't catch the rotating timber and is thinner than his parting tool. He always allows an additional 1/2mm or so to allow for reaction time once the vernier falls into the cut.



Although tradition dictates that a spindle gouge is used to shape the bead, Brendan prefers to use a parting tool to cut facets at the corners and then shapes the bead with a skew used as a negative rake scraper.



Brendon used a spindle gouge to cut the half cove above the bead (above left). He also uses a curved negative rake scraper which he believes is quicker and gives a better finish off the tool on some timbers. The flats above the cove are then turned using a spindle gouge then finished by scraping with a skew. Brendan mentioned if chattering occurs when scraping, it usually indicates that too large a cut is being made. Crisp edges and corners are obtained using the long point of a skew (above centre). The fine top bead was then shaped using a parting tool and skew (above right).



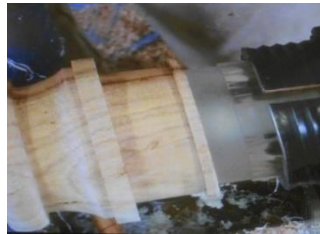
Brendon uses a Vermec hollow live centre with a removal centre point (<http://www.vermec.com/vermec-live-centres.html>). He removes the piece from the lathe and also the point from the live centre, and then refits the piece on the lathe using the mark from the cup to ensure that the piece is centred. A Vermec 10mm long drill set (<http://www.vermec.com/other-vermec-accessories.html>) is then used to drill the centre hole for the lamp's wires stopping before reaching the headstock drive centre.



A spigot is turned onto the bottom and the piece reversed and held in a chuck with shark jaws ensuring that the tailstock aligns with the marks made by the drive centre. The centre hole can now be drilled through, the top cleaned up and a recess cut to accommodate the epoxy lens.



The lens is made using Solid Cast epoxy resin available from Brendan's website (<http://store.youturn.tv/products/606-epoxy-resin-kit>) molded in a soft drink can. Due to the resin being exothermic, Brendan advises either using a pressure chamber or pouring in several layers over several days. The resin should be stirred and poured slowly to avoid introducing bubbles. Brendan's website has several informative articles and videos on using the resin.



Mount the resin blank in shark jaws and face off. A spigot should then be turned to match the recess turned in the top of the body (above, centre left). Once a good fit has been obtained, the blank is drilled out to a diameter (12mm for Brendan's LEDs) to suit the LED strip (above right). Brendan prefers Auger bits for this operation as he believes it clears the swarf better. The hole is left unpolished as it acts as a diffuser providing a more even light.



Reverse chuck the lens, bring up the tailstock and turn a small spigot for the top of the lighthouse. He then turns the outside using a spindle gouge with the lathe running at about 1600RPM. Once again he leaves the surface 'frosty'. The lens can be glued using superglue if a good fit is obtained. If it's a bit loose, epoxy glue is a better choice.



Brendan didn't turn the top of the lighthouse as it's a fairly straight forward job consisting of a drilled recess to match the spigot in the lens, a bead, domed lid and small finial. The cable for the lamp is fed through the hole in the body from the top and the LED strip placed in the lens prior to final assembly. He suggested placing a switch in series with the power and running the lamp from a 12V DC plug pack. LED Strips and plug packs are available from Jaycar:

LED strip: <http://www.jaycar.com.au/Active-Components/Optoelectronics/LED-Modules/11mm-Warm-White-LED-Solid-Strip-Light%2C-12V/p/ZD055012V>

Plugpack: <http://www.jaycar.com.au/Power-Products-Electrical/Plugpacks/DC-Output/12W-3---12VDC-Switchmode-Plugpack-with-USB-Outlet/p/MP3312>





Brendan's second demonstration was a bowl with a textured rim. The bowl was the result of a personal challenge to make a bowl in 10 minutes.

Brendon prefers to prepare his blank by drilling the (inside) centre with a Forstner bit and holding by this on the chuck in expansion mode. His weapon of choice for shaping the outside is a 3/8" bowl gouge with a replaceable tip (<http://store.youturn.tv/collections/woodcut-turning-tools/products/woodcut-10mm-bowl-gouge>). He turns with a pull shear cuts from the inside out aiming for a classic ogee shape. His final cut is performed with the more traditional cut inside to outside on the bevel. If 'knocking' occurs, Brendon suggests applying more pressure to the toolpost not the wood.



To reduce the amount of work required in having to reverse chuck the bowl to remove the spigot and shape the bottom, he aims at providing a spigot with a bead that is only slightly bigger than the diameter of the closed shark jaws. When done up the jaws grip firmly but have contact all the way around rather than in just eight points (the corners of the chuck jaws). This avoids damaging the spigot/bead so that little if any work is required to finish the bottom. As this is going to be a finished foot, cut a concave curve to the bottom, create a small bead using the skew as a scraper for the shark jaws to and check often until a suitable fit with the jaws is obtained.



When happy with the shape of the outside of the bowl and with the fit of the foot/spigot sand to finish grits, fit the chuck with the shark jaws and mount the bowl checking that it runs true.

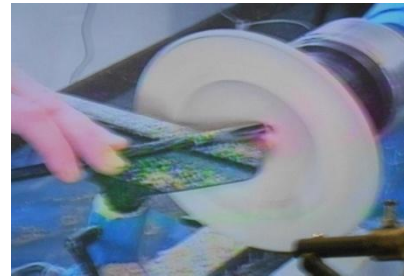


At this point it is a good idea to set the final depth by drilling.



Brendon uses two bowl gouges to turn the inside of the bowl one has a Ellsworth grind and the other a 'conventional' grind. The latter is used towards the bottom where the Ellsworth would be riding off of the bevel if it were used.

He advises that a start should be made with the handle well round to get the bevel rubbing to avoid skipping. Cuts are made from the outside in. he often finishes with a curved negative rake scraper which has been honed with a diamond sharpening plate



This bowl has a broad rim to accommodate the texturing and finishes with a bead on the inside. The rim is finished with a skew as a negative rake scraper.



The texturing tool has been made using a butter knife which has been ground thin at the end, narrowed and the end has been shaped into two prongs with a concave curve between. It works best on hard, close grained timber and end grain. To use the tool, it should overhang the toolpost a long way, the lathe speed should be slow and the handle raised so it is effectively negative rake.



A break for lunch saw a long queue at the kitchen ready to partake of Jim Pagonis' mighty spread of perfectly cooked sausages and burgers washed down with coffee and tea followed by a desert of cakes and biscuits. Many thanks to Jim for sourcing and cooking lunch and cleaning up afterwards – a mighty effort again Jim.

After lunch, Brendon moved on to his offset pepper grinder. He had prepared a blank by pre-drilling with the woodcut pepper grinder mill drill (<http://store.youturn.tv/products/milldrill>). This drill bit simplifies blank preparation when turning many of the grinders but when making only one or two it is simpler to just use 45mm, 38mm and 25mm Forstner bits (in that order).



To mount the blank using the 1" hole, Brendon makes a jam chuck with a drilled and threaded hole that matches his tailstock thread (30 X 3.5mm). A hardwood blank is mounted in scroll jaws and faced off. A hole is drilled with a Forstner bit to suit the tap size (see below). Using the live centre in the tail stock to centre the tap and apply force and the headstock locked with the indexer pin, the tap is turned with a spanner until the block is tapped through. A coating of thin superglue is then applied to harden the thread.



Some popular spindle thread tap drilling sizes	
Thread	Drill
3/4" 6TPI	11/16" (18mm)
1" 8TPI	7/8" (22mm)
1" 10TPI	15/16 (23mm)
1 1/4" 8TPI	1 7/64" (28mm)
30mm 3.5mm	27mm
33mm 3.5mm	30mm

The outside of the piece is turned round and screwed onto the headstock spindle, faced off and turned down to 1" to match the hole in the blank.

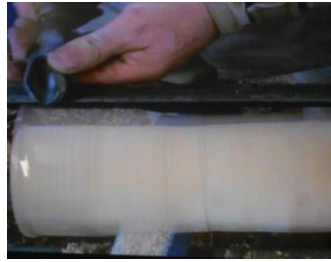


The blank is mounted on the jam chuck and drilled out to suit the top. Brendon had prepared the top beforehand using his preferred method of turning an insert rather than turning the blank to size. This method provides for a better match of the timber's figure.

When preparing the top, a Steb centre had been used and it is convenient to use the marks caused by the teeth as the centres for the offsets. Two opposing marks are used for the offsets as well as the centre mark as the true centre.



The top is fitted to the body and the whole assembly is mounted on the jam chuck and to the centre mark on the end and brought to round. The end is then moved to one of the offset marks and tapered using a spindle roughing gouge. When the final shape is obtained, the side is finished using a peeling cut with a skew. The piece is then moved to the other offset mark and the process repeated with the second side.



When doing the second side it is important to make sure that the distance from the offset centre to the edge is the same on both sides. Sand through the grades using strips held across the rotating piece.



The top is then removed and a cone centre is inserted into the hole in the body for the true centre and the end rounded over. The body is reversed and the bottom faced off and sanded with a block.



The top is moved to the chuck and the top/body junction is rounded off and the top domed and parted off.



The top was then textured using the 'butter knife' tool described above and the finished article shown to the group.



The final article of the day was a pendant with gumnut.



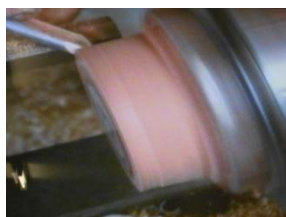
A blank is prepared slightly larger than the outer diameter of the finished pendant and is drilled partly through the blank with a suitable diameter Forstner bit. The hole is drilled offset but before to leave sufficient 'meat' between the edge of the hole and the edge of the blank. A gumnut which has had its bottom sanded flat is placed in the hole and epoxy resin slowly poured around and into the gumnut care should be taken not to introduce air bubbles.

Brendon usually uses Tungsten Carbide tools as the gumnuts are extremely hard. HSS tools can be used but will require sharpening more often. Brendon has made his own TC tools by having TC mounted onto standard tools with their ends ground off. He uses The Saw Doctor to weld the TC onto the tools. He sharpens the TC tools his self using a diamond wheel obtained from Wood River in the US (<http://www.woodcraft.com/product/149479/woodriver-diamond-8-grinding-wheel-120-grit.aspx>).

Although this project is concerned with gumnuts in epoxy resin, Brendon went to great lengths to explain that almost anything can be encapsulated in resin and turned.



After mounting the blank on the lathe using spigot jaws, turn off the top of the gumnut by taking small cuts with a spindle gouge. When down to the wood, continue taking cuts until a suitable pattern is seen. This face will be the back of the pendant so turn the face flat or slightly concave – do not leave convex.



Sand down through the grades until the epoxy is perfectly transparent and polished then bring the blank to final diameter and part off.



Face off the remaining blank in the chuck and turn slightly concave. This will form the chuck to support the pendant while turning the front face. Apply hot melt glue to the back of the pendant being sure to keep it off of the epoxy resin and attach to the chuck using the fingers to ensure that it is centred.



The front face is turned convex and sanded down through the grades until the epoxy is perfectly clear.



Once finished the pendant can be levered off of the chuck, any residual hot melt glue removed with turpentine and finished. Brendon finished this one with a new product from UBeaut, Aussie Oil (<http://store.youturn.tv/products/ubeaut-aussie-oil>)



Anybody who hasn't visited Brendon's website (<http://youturn.tv/>) should do so as it contains great information and all of his informative YouTube videos. Of particular interest in relation to the demo:

Lighthouse Grinder - <http://youturn.tv/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Lighthouse-Plans-copy.pdf>

Resin Pendant - <https://youtu.be/1t0LiLmiu9A>

Resin and wood - <https://youtu.be/7PHwjtgyX3I>

Timber offcuts bowl - <https://youtu.be/7PHwjtgyX3I>

Chattering techniques - <https://youtu.be/3qWpqmBvprA?list=UUYJ4e0XACGJQjJvfmVUcE-Q>

Two tools for making Crush Grind grinders - <http://youturn.tv/2-tools-making-grinders-using-crushgrind-mechanism>

FORWARD PROGRAM and REMINDERS

AUGUST MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the August meeting on the 22nd (documents to be sent out with this Talking Turning). As usual, all committee positions will be thrown open and it is hoped that there will be no shortage of nominees for openings so be prepared to throw your hat in the ring to help ensure the continuation and smooth running of your Guild. The Treasurer has announced that he will be available to accept your annual subs if you would like to pay those on the day.

This month's meeting will be an opportunity to show off your gadgets, jigs and special tools. This is a great opportunity for you to show your inventiveness and provide other members with ideas to simplify woodturning tasks or become more accurate, more embellished, etc. Don't forget your Show and Tell items. This is the first S&T for a couple of months so there must be a lot of the latest and greatest creations out there so bring them in for us to see (and to feature on the website!).

TOYS FOR COUNTRY HOPE.

Make sure you bring along the toys that you have made for this worthy charity. The John Atkinson Award as usual, will be judged by the Monday night group and will be awarded to the best, most imaginative toy.

SCHWERKOLT COTTAGE.

Our annual Schwerkolt Cottage family day demonstration is on again this year on Sunday the 14 of September. At the meeting, Graham will circulate a list for those who will be prepared to demo on the day – please consider volunteering your time.

**KOONUNG WOODTURNERS
GUILD INC.**
*Promoting Excellence and Fellowship
in Woodturning*
Reg. No. A0033752T

*The Koonung Woodturner's Guild meets at 9.00am
on the fourth Saturday of each month at 109
Koonung Road Blackburn North 3130*



Intermediate Identical Pair
1st Place - Graham Besley
Australian Woodturning Exhibition 2015

If unable to deliver please return to Graham Besley, 14 Hunt St. North Balwyn 3104