



VOL 9/15

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

September 2015

So begins another year in the history of the Guild. Thank you to those members who stood forward to serve on the Committee. I am sure we will have another enjoyable year and I look forward to developing some new activities with you through the year ahead.

I understand that the Schwerkolt Cottage demo day went well. Congratulations to those members who attended for the first time and had some fun demonstrating to the crowd.

We have another demonstration opportunity with the Nunawading Springfest day on Sunday 18th October from 10am till 4pm, put the date in your diary and come along for a great day out.



Monday nights have been a key feature of the Guild's routine activity list for a long time. Many members have benefited over the years from the combined knowledge provided from our more experienced turners. Over the past year our numbers attending Monday nights has slowly reduced to the point where we have less than 7 members routinely present. Monday night is an opportunity for turners to have their questions answered on many aspects of the craft - how do I get the best finish? How can I improve the design of this item? What order of steps should I use to turn a new challenging piece? What's the best way to hold the item? Get the latest goss on new equipment and tools and generally enjoy your fellow turners company over a cuppa. I take this opportunity to encourage our newer members to come along and benefit from the substantial knowledge of Alan and Mal. We meet from 7:45 till 10pm. I personally have benefited from these sessions and hope to see you there.

Our meeting next Saturday has Robbo, an exponent with the dreaded skew, as our demonstrator. Robbo will also be covering aspects of sharpening tools. This is a demo that has lots on offer.

I hope you have all taken up the Presidents Challenge for the October meeting. The aim is to attempt some new aspect of turning, whether its a more complicated item you have not made before, a more advanced turning technique (such as hollowform) or use of a tool that you have not previously used (eg make an item just using the skew). If it does not turn out as well as you hope, it doesn't matter, bring whatever you produce along to show and tell. We can all learn from each other.

Look forward to catching up next Saturday, and don't forget show and tell.

Cheers, Graham

"Do one thing every day that scares you." — Eleanor Roosevelt

Due to a prior commitment, I was unable to make the August AGM and therefore unable to fulfill my obligations with regard to the Talking Turning. Many thanks to John Wheeler for the photographs, Carol Bentley for taking notes during the Show and Tell and Richard Jardine for his description of the gadgets their contribution makes this edition possible. Ed

AGM



As per usual, all Committee positions were declared vacant and the AGM meeting was placed in the capable hands of Ray Dennis. All positions were filled by the incumbent members with the exception of Vice President which was filled by Richard Jardine. In addition Carol Bentley joined the Committee as an additional ordinary member. We welcome Richard and Carol to the Committee and look forward to their fresh ideas. John Osborne(2) will continue as editor of Talking Turning and Web Master. Treasurer, Geoff Easton reported that that the books were reviewed by Ray Dennis and were in excellent shape. The meeting passed a motion to hold the Membership fees at the current rate of \$50 for the next financial year.

A full list of the committee personnel with contact numbers is provided on the last page of each issue of Talking Turning.

BRIAN CHRISTIAN AWARD

This year's Brian Christian Award has been presented to John McBrinn. No one could disagree that John's turning skills has developed considerably since joining the Guild having taken 4 first places in the open section of this year's AWTEx exhibition. John has contributed in a major way to the Guild by having been a Committee member, a regular demonstrator at the Guild monthly meetings, a willing attendant at public demonstrations and is always prepared to avail members of his considerable skill. John was presented with two certificates, one in Oz and the second in his native tongue of Gaelic. Congratulations John.



Alan Thompson designed a quirky little “Spit the Dummy” award for his Golf Club. It is made from Red Gum and finished with Danish Oil.

After disasters in her workshop and with Ray’s help to put it back together, Di was up and running again. They say “Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery” so watch out Alan! Di brought along her version of Alan’s “Spit the Dummy” Award, also made from Red Gum and finished with Danish Oil. Di has since donated it to her Gold Club! She had also made a beautiful scarf clasp with a Rosewood pin finished with Danish Oil.

Joe Walker made some Christmas ornaments from Mahogany and Tallow wood and finished with Danish Oil, comprising 4 pieces of inside out turning.

Charles Mercer also made some segmented Christmas Decorations using Red Gum/Claret Ash and Blackwood/Wenge and finished with Danish Oil.

Val Dalsanto brought small a Blackwood bowl finished with EEE and a tall, thin lidded box, again Blackwood, which he thought might make a good toothpick holder.

Ray Smith designed an elegant vase from Huon pine, brought back from Tassie by friends who wanted him to “Make something” from it for them. It was decorated with randomly placed different sized holes and completed with a glass tube insert and left with a natural wax finish.

Graham Besley’s well thought out Art Box was made from Claret Oak/resin, Gold Leaf inserts/Epoxy resin and painted inside with Jo Sonja’s gold gouache paint.

Tim Denyer brought along 3 pieces : a small Plum box with detailed lid, a lidded container of Indian Cedar and a small bowl of unknown wood. All were finished with EEE and Beeswax.

Max Lehman’s Wine bottle/pepper Grinder had us all intrigued, especially with what looked to be a genuine Lehman label on the bottle. It was made from Huon Pine and finished with clear Estapol spray.

Reg Johnson showed an unusual Chinese Puzzle comprising 4 carved Red Gum balls with a round pine box to keep the balls secure.

David Coull brought a pair of offset Cypress pine candle sticks, veneered inside (Bunnings) with a traditional wax finish.

And congratulations to Rick Hillier who completed his first bowl with Ray. It was made from Silky Oak and finished with Organon Danish oil.





GADGET DAY by Richard Jardine

A wide variety of gadgets and ideas were presented for display at the August Wood turners meeting.

John Wheeler started the ball (or was that burl) rolling with a chuck purchased at Pop's Shed designed to hold awkward pieces of wood and burls. The chuck fits into a 7/8" hole and expands when tightened giving a very firm grip. He also showed a threaded faceplate, a vacuum chuck, a dust extractor attachment, a split collar made to protect turned items and a couple of chucks for turning broaches.

Jeff Easton shared in great detail the tragedy of a blocked sewer and a cracked cast inspection port that caused him to resort to the lathe to make a wooden gasket that is now preserving the health of his household and ensuring his neighbors remain on speaking terms. Instructions on how to make the gasket were given should anyone else ever find themselves in the same predicament. He also showed an insert for around the blade on a bandsaw table, handles for a tennis net winder and pins for the hinge of a wheelie bin.

David Coull showed us a chatter tool he had made consisting of a metal wheel held in a handle he had welded up. The wheel had been cut across the surface so that it left irregular slots on the work piece when used at low speed. A sample of the effect was passed around.

Ross Gabrielle showed his prowess as a metal turner and a wood turner by making a longer handle for his Sorby texture tool.



David Scott showed how a 4 sided vase can be turned in a jig which will hold 4 vases at the same time. Only one side of each vase is turned at a time before needing to rotate them all 90 degrees to turn the next side.

Charles presented the jig he uses for his trimmer to be able to cut slots in a bowl as was demonstrated by Peter Oppenheimer.

Val Dalsanto had a collection of metal and wooden offset jigs then kept us guessing with a jig to mark a centre line in planks and posts and a device he made for tall people with small wheelie bins.

John Mc Brinn showed us his prototype Longworth Chuck that worked so well he never made another one. The Longworth chuck is designed to hold the rim of a bowl when it is reversed to turn the base.

Graham Beasley revealed just how he was able to engrave arcs on the balls of his prize winning identical pair by using a jig he made.

Richard Jardine finished off with a wooden disc with sandpaper glued to it that attaches to the chuck to make a sanding plate. A number of discs can be made for different grades of paper. He also explained that when a hole is punched through strips of progressive grades of sandpaper they can be hung on one of two pegs so that as each grade is used it can be hung on the second peg so that you don't have to look for the next grade of paper.



TOYS FOR COUNTRY HOPE

Another outstanding effort by members saw around 90 undecorated items brought along to the meeting for the kids at Country Hope. The toys have been delivered by Jim Pagonis and were well received. The Monday night crew had a toy parade at which several items were selected as finalists for the John Atkinson award. A secret ballot was performed and the 'judges' decision was unanimous. The award will be presented at the September meeting presented with the award at the September meeting.

Congratulations to the finalists, the winner and to all those that contributed to this worthwhile community service.



Finalists



This year's toy donation

SCHWERKOLT COTTAGE

Another successful outing to Schwerkolt cottage saw several members display their skills to an appreciative public. A great day was enjoyed by all with lunch, as usual provided by Ray Smith's Apex team.



FORWARD PROGRAM and REMINDERS

SEPTEMBER MEETING.

The September meeting will commence as usual at 9:00. The demonstrator this month will be Ian (Robbo) Robertson of Cobb and Co Woodturning. Robbo will be covering all things sharpening and will be demonstrating several methods of keeping your tools deadly sharp.

ANNUAL SUBS.

Yup, it's that time of the year again when a treasurer's fancy turns to subscriptions. In a magnanimous gesture your Committee voted to keep the subs at \$50 again this year and this was wholly endorsed by the members at the AGM. Many members paid up at the October AGM (that explains the smile on the treasurer's face this month!). Geoff will be available and more than happy to collect the money of those who haven't yet coughed up at the October meeting. If you won't be there, contact Geoff to arrange an alternate payment method.

SPRINGFEST.

The guild will be demonstrating at the Nunawading Springfest this year. The festival this year will be held between 10AM and 4PM on the 18th October. Festival details are available on the City of Whitehorse web site (<http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Spring-Festival.html>). As usual, Graham will call for demonstrators at the September meeting and we hope that you will consider putting your name down and join us on the day for an hour or so. These demos are a great way to raise the profile of the Guild in the community, is well received by the public and all in all, is a fun day.

GUILD HISTORY BOOK.

Several more copies of the Guild history were bought at the AGM and the Treasurer reports that we only have a few left. If you haven't yet picked up a copy of this well researched tome, contact Geoff to secure your copy before they run out.

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 Lidded Container
1st Place - Ray Smith
Australian Woodturning Exhibition 2015