



VOL 6/12

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

June 2012

There's turning for everyday things and turning for exhibitions. Lewis Harper showed us the way to "hop in" to everyday things which will still have a good finish and be very saleable to the public. It was interesting to see how much he did with a large skew chisel and how good a finish he was able to achieve with a finish of bees wax and grapeseed oil.



For some time it has been inconvenient for some members to be able to contact other members because membership lists were only available to committee members. At last meeting it was apparent that most members were not averse to having their details on a membership list available to all. If you do not wish to have your phone number, e-mail address or home address on a list to distribute to all members please contact Dianna Bermingham or Ray Smith by 30th June this year.

Congratulations to Guild members for the large number of entries in the Australian Woodturning Exhibition and for the generous offers of help in the roster of tasks needed to operate the event. At this stage it appears there have been 45 entries from 15 Guild members. Congratulations to those who were part of the 8 first places, 11 second places and 4 third places. These figures are probably a record for the Guild in any of the previous exhibitions. Also congratulations to the Exhibition committee who put themselves through a lot to hold such an important event.

[At our June meeting you are asked to bring items you had in the exhibition and be prepared to talk about their design and making. If special jigs were used make sure you have them for others to see.](#)

For the first time in many, many months the Cottage has been booked for a birthday party on the afternoon of our July meeting when we are to have a demonstration by Andrew Potocnik. This may be a blessing in disguise as the Field Naturalists Hall in Blackburn has been booked for the event meaning that we can cater for up to 55-60 to be there – further details later.

Have a think about who should be selected for this year's Brian Christian Award and let a committee member know.
See you on the 23rd. Ray

MAY MEETING SHOW & TELL, lead by Mal Jackson



Arthur Sanky is furthering his pyramid hedron skills. Using 8 sections of Blackwood enhances the grain display.
A nice Huon Pine bowl by new member Murray Coulthard



Val Dalsanto busy as ever with Ossage Orange goblet, lovely Myall bowl and lidded container in Blue gum and Ash.



Stand for walking stick collection in Blackwood, crafted by John Osbourn 2
Cup stand by Ron Dunston, made from Redgum and Pine.



Birdseye Maple platter by Ray Smith and Claret ash bowl by Graham Besley

JUNE MEETING REMINDER:
The June meeting will be dedicated to reviewing the items that members entered into the Australian Wood Turning Exhibition. Don't forget to bring along your exhibition items for this show and tell. Be prepared to share some of the difficulties you faced when turning your items and any special jigs used.

GUEST DEMONSTRATOR LEWIS HARPER



At the May meeting, Lewis produced a number of items that he routinely sells and entertained us with a running commentary on turning tips, how to get bargain tools and some of life's lessons.

Some of the Turning Tips that your Editor captured were;

- Lewis likes the Nova Scroll chucks with spigot jaws, uses graphite powder to keep the mechanism working smoothly
- Uses the skew chisel for most jobs from roughing down, obtaining detail and parting off.
- Holds thumb near tool edge to deflect shavings away from face.
- Runs lathe at 3000 rpm for most small item turning.
- Sands at same high speed, once down to 400 grit, then finishes by rubbing with paper towel.
- Likes Merbu wood for making tops, and Photinia for knitting nancy's.
- An excellent sanding paper that has great wear resistance is Indasa Rhyno Wet Redline which is made in Portugal.
- Items made for children are oiled with a foodsafe mix of grape seed oil and bees wax. Ingredients are combined and melted in the microwave to form a soft wax consistency. He uses Tripple E and U Beaut Shine for other items
- Burns ring marks using wire from old tyre, this wire lasts forever.
- Finds fine brass pins can be driven into point end of tops by drilling and hammering in whilst lath is running at speed.
- McJing tool steel holds an excellent edge.
- Signs all his pieces of work with name, date and wood type. Uses an Artline 200 (0.4mm black) pen.
- Lemon is a great agent to clean wax and resins from hands at end of the session.

Did you know :

That the plastic end of a shoe lace is called an "aglet"?

There are aprox. 71,000 members in the world wide Woodworking Forum. Join in the fun and seek the knowledge.



Home made Drive end pins that do not split the wood.



Very effective rotating tool stand used by Lewis.



Three tops and knitting nancy produced by Lewis at the Demonstration.

GUILD MEMBERSHIP LISTS

At the May meeting it was generally agreed that a list of members and their contact phone details be made available for all members. This will aid in Members being better able to contact each other for sharing turning advise or social contact. Please advise Ray Smith, Di Bermingham or Ian Absolom by the next meeting if you do not wish your phone details to be on the distributed membership list.

Some sayings that come from the “good old days”... Continued

Houses had thatched roofs - thick straw, piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery, and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs."

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed.

Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection.

That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, "Dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance-way to reduce this. Hence: a “threshold”.

(Thanks to Di B for this article)

Making Chess Pieces

David Tonkin found an interesting video clip. Have a look at the web link below, it's amazing what can be done with very basic equipment and dexterous toes.

<http://www.wimp.com/chesspieces/>

LIBRARY UPDATE

There is a new book that has been added to the library collection; Australian Trees and Shrubs, Common and Scientific Names and Toxic Properties.

FORWARD PLANNING REMINDERS

KOONUNG WOODTURNERS GUILD INC.

Asscn No. aaaA 0033752T

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Koonung Woodturners Guild Inc. will be held at the Koonung Community Cottage 109 is Koonung Road Blackburn North on **Saturday 25th August commencing at 9.00am.**

The ordinary business of the annual general meeting shall be:

- (a) To confirm the minutes of the last preceding Annual General Meeting.
- (b) to receive from the Committee reports upon the operations of the Association during the last year.
- (c) To elect officers of the Association and the ordinary members of the Committee: namely , President, Vice-President, Secretary, treasurer and up to 4 ordinary committee members.
- (d) To receive the statement from the treasurer a report on the annual financial position
- (e) To set the subscription for the ensuing year.
- (f) To consider any other business which the chairman of the Annual General Meeting, in his discretion, considers to be business properly brought forward.

JULY MEETING; The July meeting will be an all day demonstration with Andrew Potocnik, to be held on July 28th and commencing at 9.00am. Due to a clash in the afternoon at the Community Center, we will hold the day at the Field Naturalists Hall, located at 1 Gardenia St, Blackburn. Costs will be \$3 for those members only attending the morning session, and \$15 for members staying the full day.

ST ALFREDS; Each year in August we have provided a demonstration to the boys from St Alfreds. This occurs before Fathers Day and we generally have items to sell to the boys. Please be prepared to make a few items over the next month in support of this event.

BRIAN CHRISTIAN AWARD. The Committee is seeking input form members wishing to nominate a Guild member for this years award. The award is made to outstanding members who have shown excellence in turning and contributed to the Guild.

JOHN ATKINS APPEAL; Can you start thinking about making some ducks, people or similar item that can be painted by the children. Items are required for the August Meeting.