



VOL 2/10

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

February 2010



Last Months meeting was a 'hands on day' and from all accounts very successful and well attended. Vice President Ray Smith, who stood in for me whilst I was away, chose an Item that was by no means a push over and stretched all skill levels.

As our members often do after a challenge has been laid down, more intricate turnings of the same item were bravely bought along and the hows and pitfalls were discussed at our Monday nights session. Thank you Ray and all those who helped out on the day in my absence.

After a few weeks in New Zealand its great to be home and back amongst my fellow woodies. While there I was Invited to demonstrate at the Whakatane Woodturners Guild for a couple of hours as part of their arts Festival. Pohutukawa (NZ Christmas tree) was on hand as blanks. It was good to turn and made effective spinning tops. It's one of their more colourful woods.

Congratulations to Michael O'Callaghan and his team for installing new benches in the workshop. Not only do we now have room for 4 lathes but have storage room underneath. The Thursday group which is expanding can now use 6 lathes at one time, and of course, there is a permanent home for the Vicmarc lathe that John and Edna Atkinson kindly Donated to the club.

Well done to our newer members, your progress is being noted. Welcome to Graham Besley our newest member.

'OPEN DAY' is well in hand. Lists for volunteers will be out at our February Meeting on the 27th February There will be: Pamphlets to deliver! Cakes, Scones, and slices to be made for the Café! Help with the BBQ Demonstrators for Turning, setup and Cleaning up etc. The most important of course is you and your partner, Come along and join in. Lets make it a fun day!

Go to whoa! So far, 'Safety Issues' and 'Obtaining Wood' have been discussed. Our 15min Forum this month will cover 'Storing of wood'. Our last meeting was cut short so you could go outside and play! hence 'Storing of wood' is still on the agenda.

There is a fountain of knowledge in our Guild and many years of experience between you so come and share some of your thoughts on the topic.

Our Demonstration for this month is by Timbermate so see you there.

Don't forget to bring something for show and tell on **February 27th 2010**

Dianna

'GOOD THINGS ARE NOT DONE IN A HURRY' German Proverb

SHOW and TELL



Taken by David McKittrick who says.
“Wood turning lathes don’t make mistakes they only make kindling.”



Val Dalsanto brought various small bowls made from desert acacias.

David Cuoll showed his three legged container with a lid decorated by his index machine.

Anne Munro brought one of her many pepper grinders made from red gum

Geoff Easton had two platters and a small bowl. His black trade mark black top edge was evident.

Ray Smith again showed one of his carriage clocks made from Red Gum as well as a three legged bowl form black heart sassafras.



Show and Tell is not only an opportunity to show others what you have made it is a source of inspiration to other Guild members.
Don't forget to bring something at the next meeting.

JOHN ATKINSON'S GIFT OF A LATHE TO THE GUILD

With the absence of John because of his illness his wife Edna came to present to the Guild his VL Vicmarc lathe. John has used this for many years to produce items of a very high standard including a Best of the Show at an Australian Woodturning Exhibition.



This lathe will be installed in the workshop and will serve as an inspiration to those who use it especially those who come to Thursday learning sessions.

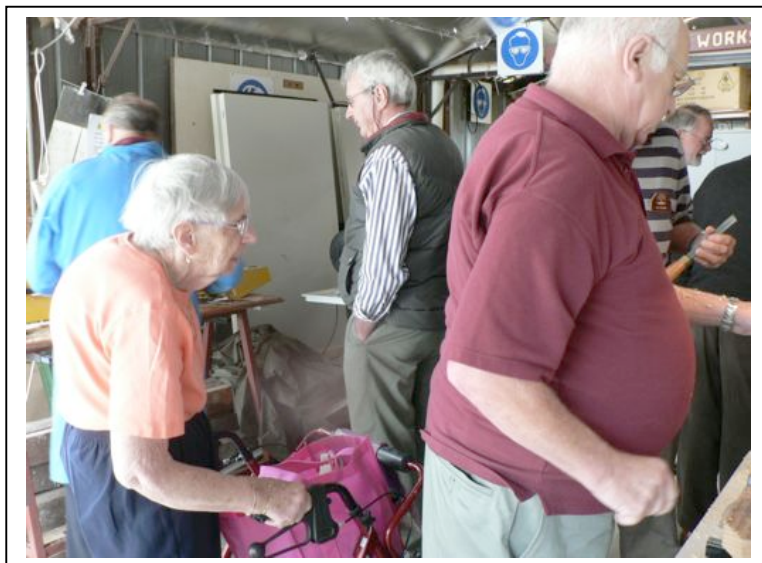
Several members spoke glowingly on what John has meant to them and the Guild during his many years of service.

HANDS – ON SESSION

Special thanks to Ray Smith for preparing an interesting exercise which involved turning after a large hole had been drilled in a piece of rectangular wood. Also thanks to Alan Thompson, Rick Gilks, David Coull and Max Lehmann who led groups to carry out the exercise.

It was soon discovered that it can be difficult to drill a hole exactly in the right place when its centre must coincide with the points of head stock and tail stock. Discussions on how this can be done were still being held weeks later.

It was very pleasing and encouraging to see Edna Atkinson watching members in action especially using John's gift lathe.



MONDAY NIGHT CRITIQUE MEETINGS by Tom BESWICK

To improve in anything, even woodturning, constant evaluation by yourself and others can be important. As well as fulfilling this the Monday night sessions are held with great fellowship and humour. If you are able to attend you will benefit by being there.

Tom Beswick is the reporter of some of the happenings at these.

Some of the participants ; “ Terrier” Thompson, “Gent” John Osborne, John “Irish” McBrinn, “Voracious” Val Dalsanto, ”Leprechaun” Michael O’Callaghan Mal “Stonewall “ Jackson “Raucas” Rick Gilks .

Monday 25/1: Voracious thanked everyone for help he had received and apologised for being slow on the uptake. Raucas produced a belaying pin and asked for help on information regarding a ball made from triangles. Leprechaun had a small vessel of “Weepy Myall” and an elegant pen, Irish had an extremely delicate and masterly piece from Hairy oak and Beef Wood. Voracious in his usual provocative manner commented that it was a pity Irish had not done a lot more with it. Voracious then became subject to intense scrutiny after producing his Christmas decorations.

Monday 1/2 Voracious was first cab off the rank with a small Gidgee bowl and received for a change high praise for the finish. Vice. Pres. Ray displayed two elegant lidded containers with false ebony finials and bottoms. Terrier showed how he solved the problem of drilling holes accurately. Irish showed his versatility in making a bowl hollowed out from holes in the side and produced the tools needed to do this.

Monday 8/2 Voracious once again was first with a Myall bowl but soon lost the “Brownie “ points he won the previous week. It was suggested that he return to the “finishing” school

WORKSHOP

Thanks and congratulations and thanks to Michael O’Callaghan For the excellent job he has done in mounting our four small Vicmarc lathes on a long bench. This has provided a safer working space and more storage space. Further work will be undertaken to clear up the end of the workshop.

The committee has decided to purchase three scroll chucks, two for the Vicmarcs and one for the Woodfast lathes so that all can be used at the same time.

THURSDAY GROUP

This has returned to full operation with a regular group of 5 or 6 attending. Usually each shows what they have done during week and hold discussions about them. There is an opportunity to learn some of the basics and assist one another. Above all it is a time of fellowship and good humour.

One of the biggest problems for beginners is the sharpening of tools. This will be made much easier when the new Uni-Jig sharpening system is installed. Correctly sharpened tools are essential to any woodturning.

Now that we have the lathes bench mounted making a safer working space we would like to see more participants.

ASPECTS TO WOOD TURNING by Ray Smith

There are those woodturners who strive to produce the perfect item in a conventional way. They try to choose the correct timber, strive to make a design which has pleasing proportions, have no defects in the turning and have perfect finishing. Many find very small defects and try to eliminate these next time. The nearer they become to perfect they will hear, "That's beautiful," when they show it to someone else.

Then there are those who may or may not have reached this stage and go on to explore the out of the usual things which can be done with the wood turning lathe. They work with more than one centre, they make up unusual holding systems, they try very large or very small items and they may have different finishes. These may be done with more thought to overcoming problems than to design features. A common response to people seeing the results of these is, "How was this done?"

A few combine the two of these to elicit this response from others, "That's beautiful! How was it done?"

SANDPAPER

Some years ago Jim Pagonis found a source a very good quality Velcro backed sandpaper and took orders from members so that it could be purchased at a reasonable price. That source changed but he has again found where it can again be obtained.

Jim is prepared to do this again if he can obtain a large order. With this news letter is an order form (those with e-mail would have received it last week). If you are interested fill in the form and give to Jim before the March meeting.

I found the last order excellent and have just about used it all. R. Smith

Welcome to our newest member, Graham Besley. Graham has done some turning -self taught and now wants to improve in preparation for retirement. He is now working only four days a week and is using Thursdays to come to be with the Thursday group.

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She noticed that her mother has several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, Mum?"

Her mother replied, "Well, every time you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy one of my hairs turns white."

The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, "Mumma, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?"