



VOL 02/11

PRESIDENTS REPORT

February 2011



'Hands on Day' has become a tradition within the club as our first Monthly meeting of the year! After a long break, it is embraced by many of our members who just can't wait to get back into the clubs activities. As with all our meetings a lot of thought goes into the planning and in this light I thank Ray Smith, our committee and those members who helped out on the day. The fact that the guild keeps ticking over whilst I am away shows how strong and supportive our members are . Thank you all!

Every now and again things crop up from left field, throwing a spanner in the works of our well run guild. In this case, with the rising costs of utilities, the administrators of the 'Cottage' have raised their charges. Our committee has looked at absorbing these extra costs which severely impact on our revenue stream, but can no longer afford to do so. In the long term our Annual Subscriptions and fees will not meet the fixed expenses of rents Insurances, etc. So It is with great reluctance that the committee recommends raising the fees of Monday nights, weekly workshops and Saturday meetings by one dollar a session.

The purchase of a new lathe has been on the agenda for sometime now. The matter has been put to the members and there have been many schools of thought. After many hours of debate and careful consideration Jim Pagonis and his persistence has come up with a variable speed lathe that fulfils all of our needs and then some. Saturday is going to be buzzing with this new addition to our workshop!

Our Past President Arthur Sankey has had the opportunity to do some work for a 'Women's Refuge' in the area. Often when Women come to this home they arrive with very little except their children and what they are dressed in. The Guild has received a written request asking if we can embellish a very solid, but not attractive, Dolls House and make some furniture etc. for the children to play with. Graham Besely has been kind enough to write up the specs and a list of furniture and furnishings required. Hopefully, with partners involved we can come up with some interesting pieces to fill the house. This will be the first 'Monthly Challenge' of the year!

Dianna

Our Demonstrator this month is Chris Bennett from Pops Shed!
Don't forget Show and Tell.

Next Meeting 26th February 2011
9am

SHOW and TELL



Reg Johnson; a green vase and a bowl.

Ray smith; a lidded jewellery box made from blackheart sassafras.

Val Dalsanto; a tall mounted clock and rectangular candle holder.

Graham ; a spalted candle holder

Geoff Easton; a silver birch bowl.

These were missed by the camera:
A pen made by John Osborne.

A cylindrical lidded container from tiger myrtle made by Mal Jackson.

David Pincus's first lidded box made from red gum. He was rightfully pleased with it. There should be many more to come!



FINIAL EXERCISE



The hands-on project at the last meeting was to make a 'Cindy Drozda' finial.

Two samples copied from actual photos were followed. As with most things different people had different approaches but most agreed that start from the point and working backwards to the head stock was best so long as enough wood was left to prevent vibration.

Careful sanding and crisp edges were attained by most.



GUILD COSTS

Annual charges by The Cottage to the Guild have been raised. The Annual fee will be \$750 (\$600) and attendance at meetings and the workshop raised from \$1 to \$2. The first increase for many years.

The Annual subscription will not cover the fixed annual costs of the above plus Public liability Insurance, workshop equipment insurance, newsletter and incorporation costs. (Of the previous \$2 attendance fee \$1 went to the Guild and helped to cover these).

The committee has recommended that the charge for Monday Nights, Tuesday and Thursday workshop attendance be raised to \$3- with \$1 going to the Guild. This matter will be discussed at the next Saturday meeting.

NEW GUILD LATHE

For some time many members have thought that a lathe with variable speed, a reasonable size motor, a good over the bed distance and portability would be a valuable acquisition for the Guild. This is needed for demonstrators.

Following much Guild discussion and investigation the committee has decided to purchase a CT-70 100 Carbatec Variable Speed lathe.

The swing over the bed is 355mm.

The spindle thread is M30x 3.5 (The same as the present Woodfast lathe)

The motor $\frac{3}{4}$ hp

Morse taper MT 2

Indexing positions 24

Net weight 40 kilograms

A handle is attached to each end of the bed for easy lifting.

The bed can be placed on a table as well as a trolley with wheels for easy moving.

Jim Pagonis can be relied upon to obtain this at a very reasonable price and have it available for the next Saturday meeting.

FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS

Jim has arranged for the following demonstrators at our monthly meetings.

February: Chris Bennett, from Pop's Shed will demonstrate how various crystals glued in indentations can be used to decorate tuned items.

March; David Shing, a regular exhibition exhibitor who stretches the limits of imagination at the AWTEX will be coming.

May: Paul Barton, a winner of many first places at Exhibitions, with his "Turned –on –designs will show how he does them.

Invitations will be sent to two other Guilds for a limited number of their members to be present. A special raffle where the prize will be a \$50 wood voucher will be held at the March meeting.

DOLL'S HOUSE FURNITURE

At the last meeting a letter from Robinson House Women's Refuge indicated that they would like some furniture made for a Doll's House they have for children's play. Arthur brought it along to the last committee meeting and he and Graham Besley are making a list of things Guild members could make. When the list is distributed please volunteer to be a helper.

Does anyone have a copy of the Operation/Maintenance manual for a STILL 011 AV chain saw that David Pincus could borrow, photocopy and return promptly?
David Pincus 98279775 or davidpincus0@primus.com.au

LIBRARY DISPLAY

The Whitehorse Library in Vermont South has granted us display place from September 28th to October 25 2011. At that time we will be looking for small items to be displayed and members to set up the display. When the refurbished Library in Whitehorse Road is opened an opportunity to again display there will be sought.

LATHES FOR SALE

A Doncaster lady has made contact that her late husband's lathe is for sale. It is a green Woodfast Lathe approximately 25 years old with a metre length bed. As well as the lathe there is a variety of chisels, face plates and four boxes of various timbers. Contact Sally 9857 5711

The Record Lathe and tools of former member the late Harold Bounds may be sold by his wife Helen. Details should be available next meeting.

SENIOR'S CORNER

Perks of being over 60 and heading toward 70!

- 1. Kidnappers are not very Interested in you.**
- 2. In a hostage situation, You are likely to be released first.**
- 3. No one expects you to run -- Anywhere.**
- 4. People call at 9 PM and ask, 'Did I wake you?'**
- 5. People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.**
- 6. There is nothing left to learn the hard way.**
- 7. Things you buy now won't wear out...**
- 8. Your secrets are safe with your friends- they can't remember them either.**
- 9. You can live 'without sex but not your glasses.**
- 10. Your investment in Health Insurance is finally paying off.**

CINDY DROZDA HINTS FOR LIDDED BOXES - continued

Higher lathe speeds can yield a cleaner cut.

Many light cuts at a higher lathe speed leave you with a smoother surface that needs less sanding. Oh, and a sharp tool helps too.

Be sure you are comfortable with the speed you are using.

If a lathe is vibrating, it's too fast. If you're nervous, it's too fast.

For safety at any speed use the tail stock for support as long as possible.

Even if it means some redundancy in the steps of sanding.

This way only the lightest of cuts close to the centre of the piece will be made without any support. How frustrating to have the piece that you have been working on for hours fly off the jam chuck and go spinning into oblivion. Use tape for insurance when finishing the bottom without the tailstock.

Tune the fit of the lid for the owner of the box.

A woodturner might appreciate a tight fit, but many non-woodturners are intimidated by it. They usually expect to lift the lid and have it come off without forcing. Also if the box is intended to hold something (like a piece of jewellery for instance) the lid might need to be opened with one hand since the other hand is holding the object is going to be placed in the box. On the other hand, a pill box that is to be carried in the pocket would want a tight fitting lid so it won't come open unless the owner wants it.

Use a waterproof finish on the box, inside and out, to minimize moisture transfer due to humidity changes.

The secret to a smooth finish is : Sanding!

Especially on a small object, visible sanding scratches detract from your beautiful form. And it is faster to get a smooth finish by sanding to a finer grit while the piece is on the lathe than applying more coats of finish.

There is no "magic finish" that will make a poorly sanded project look good!

Slow down the lathe for sanding.

The paper will cut better without burning, and the wood will not get too hot. A good rule of thumb that I use is: if my fingers are too hot to be comfortable, I slow the lathe down until my fingers can stand the heat.

Life is too short for dull or low quality sandpaper!

Fresh grit will cut faster, and generate less heat. Good quality abrasives will usually last longer to be a better bargain in the long run than the cheap stuff.

Make the bottom look good.

Watch people look at your work, and you'll see almost everyone turn it over to look at the bottom.

Sign your work