



VOL 11/11

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

November 2011

Detail and accuracy – choosing the right wood, treating it correctly, aligning the grain in the right direction, when joining pieces together. We saw this all on display in the making of the gears for Will Mathieson's clocks. These clocks are sold for very large sums and will keep time accurately to one second a month. One can wonder what he would have been looking for when he was a judge at the last Australian Woodturning Exhibition.



Thank you to those who participated in the Whitehorse Springfest. Our transporting team of Arthur, Val, Geoff and Ian now have their operation to a fine art. The large number of visitors saw bowl and finial making as well as the usual tops for children. An excellent display of completed articles for sale attracted much attention and proved there is a demand for small well-turned items. A few more demonstrators would have made the task easier for our members who were there.

Dianna has followed up with a talk to the Button Society on the making of wooden buttons. At the same time she sold many of the buttons made last year raising \$150. Mal Jackson's ellipse centre buttons were a favorite.

The committee, relying on the support of Guild members is now giving much thought to what could be done at an Open day on 24th March next year. Suggestions are welcomed.

Monday night critique sessions which are being well attended are serving as a fellowship activity as well as a learning time.

A group of enthusiastic beginning turners are making use of the Thursday afternoon sessions and making much progress with their turning.

Our next meeting will feature the presentation of toys to the Salvation Army and Eastern Relief. Hopefully there will be a good collection of turned toys but others will be welcomed.

THE MEETING WILL START LATER AT 10.00 AM

After the toy presentation the room will be arranged for our sit down break-up luncheon. (Many members have indicated on sheets displayed at the last two meetings they will be attending. If you were not at these meetings and wish to attend please e-mail me to help with arrangements.

Have a happy and safe festive season with the family and at the same time complete a difficult turning project you have been thinking about and putting off for some time.
Ray.

SHOW and TELL by Ted Anderson



Val added some colour to his collection of vases, identical pair of cherry mini bowls and and urn for small people.



John McBrin has been challenging the grey matter with David Springett turning wizardry. Accuracy, use of jigs and good skew skill are a must for this "streptohedron".



Toy dog from Alan Thompson beautifully finished. Alan used steel for the hinge and axles. An encouragement for us all to be actively making Toys for Christmas.



'Early' cypress bowl by Ray Smith and Red Gum & Ash bowl by Val



David Scott described the process for this challenging large urn of coastal banksia segments glued to a preformed fibreglass shell. We look forward to seeing the finished article.



Blackwood and Huon pine "Cindy Drozda" style lidded container by Ray Smith. Huon pine can chip in finial work.

GUEST SPEAKER WILL MATTHYSEN .. CLOCKMAKER



Will Matthysen is a professional maker well known for his hand built unique wooden clocks in contemporary design.

Will outlined the work of a clock maker from the early 1700s, John Harrison, who rose to the challenge of making a sea going clock with extreme accuracy (1 second per month) so that longitude could be accurately determined. The British Government had set a prize (aprox \$4.5 million in todays money) for anyone who could solve this very important but intractable problem. Over a period of 17 years, Harrison made a series of clocks, using many ingenious advances, including Lignum vitae wood for self lubricated bearings.

Will has undertaken a special project to reconstruct one of the Harrison clocks. He described the process for making each gear. We were impressed with the accuracy and attention to very fine details required to achieve a single gear, which can take several days to produce. The rim of the gear is segmented and support arms are constructed so that the grain runs radially. Will uses specialised fine grained hardwoods such as Accacia rhodoxylon to ensure both cutting accuracy and that there is no movement of the wood after turning and cutting. To stabilise each piece of wood, they are dried in an oven at 50 deg for 6 days.

Will utilises some highly specific cutting equipment including an NC computerised milling machine. The combination of the complexity in the clock construction, attention to component details and accuracy of manufacture impressed us all.



WHITEHORSE SPRINGFEST

A number of club members enjoyed a lovely spring day in demonstrating their turning skills to the public. A number of items were sold and spinning tops were popular with the kids. Below are some happy snaps from the day.



From an excellent display of completed items for sale \$270 was earned from sales. Two members sold \$90 worth each another \$70 - the Guild earned \$69 from the day.



BREAK - UP FUNCTION & TOY APPEAL

A reminder that our final meeting for the year shall commence at 10.00am on Saturday 26th November. Thanks to members who have volunteered to bring food as per the list circulated at the October meeting.

We hope you have all been busy and having fun making some toys for the Harold Irving Toy Appeal

Toys will be presented to the Salvation Army and Eastern Relief at 10.30 am.

The Committee looks forward to seeing all our members there.

JANUARY MEETING

As per recent years, our first meeting will be a hands on activity. Ray has an interesting challenge for us to have a crack at. So bring your tools and your sense of humour. It will be a good opportunity to do some turning together.

OPEN DAY 24th March 2012

As advised at the October meeting, the Club will hold an Open Day at the Guilds facilities next March. The Committee is seeking member suggestions on the format and type of activities we may conduct on the day. Please let a committee member know of your thoughts.

Has this happened to you???

My wife stepped into the room where I was working the other day and asked me if I would go do some wood turning on the lathe.

"Of course," I replied, receiving anticipatory joy at the thought of my wife's pleasure when I would be finished creating the item for which she had a need.

"What do you need? Maybe a new dibber or possibly a rolling pin or a vase? I have Persimmon, Hickory, Mesquite, a little bit of Walnut and a tad of Oak. What would you like?"

"Oh, I don't care," my wife replied. "I need about six bags of shavings for the flower beds."