



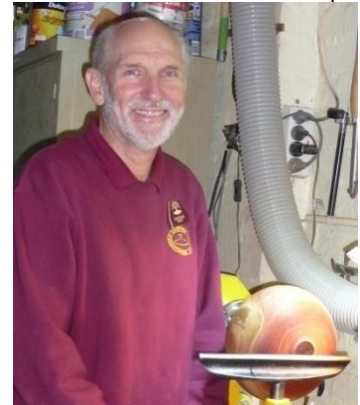
VOL 1/16

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

January 2016

I hope you have all had a wonderful festive season and are now turning your thoughts to the year ahead. I hope you have some dreams to make come true, some items on your bucket list to tick off and will have lots of fun along the way. Lets face it, the journey is generally more interesting than the destination.

Well done to all members for making the November Christmas breakup meeting such a success. Another wonderful collection of toy donations, great food and companionship. I understand that the textile art discussion led by my wife Robin was a hit with the ladies.



Our first meeting this year is the usual "hands on" day where I hope we have an interesting item for you to produce. As usual, its a team effort and lots of opportunity for fellowship. Bring along a basic set of sharp tools and be prepared to be part of the action. Unfortunately I cannot be there as I will be cycling in NZ. I am sure the morning will run smoothly under VP Richard's guidance. I look forward to seeing the outcome at the Febuary meeting.

My understanding is that the routine Monday, Wednesday and Thursday meetings will recommence after next Saturday's meeting. I continue to urge our newer members to be involved with the Monday evening meetings. Its a great way to have questions answered, get guidance on your design thoughts, learn from others mistakes and enjoy the friendly banter of fellow turners.

Don't forget Show and Tell for our meeting on Saturday 23rd, I hope you have been busy over the past few months.

Cheers, Graham

A thought to kick off the year..."*Just remember there is someone out there that is more than happy with less than what you have.*" – Unknown

CHRISTMAS TOY PRESENTATION

Once again the Guild members came to the fore with a great swag of toys for the underprivileged kids that are provided for by Eastern Relief and the Salvos. Numbers appeared to be a little down from previous years but a mighty effort none the less. Many of our time poor members opted to buy their gifts rather than making them but that's ok, it's more important for us to provide for as many of these kids as possible.



Two tables full represents this year's offering.



Members and guests examining and discussing the donations

President Graham greets James Jameison from Eastern Relief and Major Gary Hart of the Salvation Army





Our president Graham Besley, presents the toys to James and Gary



James (right) and Gary (left) offer their thanks to the Guild for our contribution. Both organisations are under increasing pressure to provide for the growing number of families in need of help at this time of the year. Both organisations expressed a shortage of items for 13 to 17 year olds (a hint for next year?).



While loading of the toys into the respective organisation's vehicles and setting up for lunch was underway, the ladies retired to the back room where this year's guest presenter was Robin Besley (left) who is a textile artist. Robin provided a show and tell display of a range of her works, including wall hangings, sculptural pieces and handbags, her work embodies the technique of free motion embroidery. Robin loves experimenting with painted patterns, printing with lino cuts and fabric dyeing using various wood shavings. The use of bright colours inspires many of her designs.

Robin exhibits her work in Galleries such as the 'Stonehouse' in Warrandyte and the Alcove Art Shop in the Box Hill Community Centre.



Once the setting up was completed, it was decided that it was an opportune time to open the bar. This year, chateau cardboard was banned and those with refined taste enjoyed a choice of several quite palatable bottles of red and white

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



Around 12:30, the dinner gong sounded and we all headed to the table to partake of a fine spread. Many thanks to those who assisted the Committee with the catering, without your kind help it would have made our task so much harder and the day much less of a success.



Members enjoying good food, good wine and good company.



A few members tucking right in!



Immediately after lunch, Graham presented his annual address. Graham welcomed members and guests and thanked those who provided the food. He went on to thank Robin for her presentation on textile art. He noted that the year had been a successful one for the Guild with good participation at meetings and Show and Tell and outstanding success at this year's AWTE<sub>x</sub>, all indicators being that the members were enjoying their turning. Member's skill growth continues and much of this is due to Ray Smith for his beginner's session and Alan Thompson for the Monday night critiques. He went on to advise members that next year's demonstrator program by Jim Pagonis will provide an interesting range of topics. Finally, Graham thanked members' partners for their support during the year and wished members and their families all best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.



And finally, dessert was served.

Once again, the Committee's thanks goes to all those that provided the food, helped in the setup of the rooms and assisted in the cleanup afterward. A particular thank you to those who stood tirelessly at the sink and washed and dried all the dishes and cutlery and those that helped put away the chairs and tables and manned the vacuum cleaners.

**Damn it! Finished on an odd page again, filler required.**

**Ok, I spotted this really nifty article on catches in an AAW magazine. Thought it a perfect item to slip in to begin the New Year with. What's that you say? Never had a catch, not likely to ever have one, your technique is too good, tools too sharp. Well I suggest you skip this bit and head straight down to 'Forward Program and Reminders' and the rest of us 'mere mortals' will continue on....**

## **Serious Bowl-Busting Catches and How to Avoid Them**

The occasional small catch when turning bowls may be inevitable and usually causes no real problem. It's those big bowl-busting catches that are the bane of many turners' efforts - the piece may be damaged or even broken. This often results in a "design change opportunity.

Why do the serious catches happen? There are many ways that a catch can happen, but nearly always it's because of the way the tool was being handled. A large catch is frequently a result of losing control of the tool when a small catch occurs. Dull tools, which cause the turner to force the cut, are a frequent cause. Turning with tools extended too far off the rest, especially lightweight tools, can cause vibration which usually results in a catch. Catches, when using a gouge or skew, usually occur when the bevel gets away from the wood. An unsupported cutting edge will dig in, causing a catch. When hollowing a bowl with a scraper, allowing too much of the cutting edge to contact the wood will cause a catch, sometimes a large one. Over-aggressive cutting or scraping against the grain is a common cause of a catch.

### **A few things you should know to prevent serious catches:**

If you know what causes a catch you can eliminate the cause.

- Whenever possible, when using a scraper or a hollowing tool or a bowl gouge, the tool handle should be tucked in against your side. Move your body to move the tool. The larger muscles in your body do a much better job of controlling the tool than the smaller muscles will. Holding the tool out away from your body is an invitation to lose control of the tool if a catch occurs.
- When using scrapers, the handle should be tipped up a little so that the butt end is a bit higher than the blade. Shear scraping is an exception.
- When scraping on the outside of a bowl, cut a little below the centerline.
- When scraping on the inside of a bowl, cut on or a little above the centerline.
- Using a scraper near the rim of a thin walled bowl almost guarantees a catch, and often a busted bowl. The wood vibrates and the tool digs in.
- Allowing a hollowing tool to rub on the rim of a hollow vessel is a sure way to break the rim if a large catch occurs.
- Some turners grind their gouges with a "hump" at the nose. This can cause a catch when the tool enters a cut. The side-grind edge should be straight or with a small convex surface.

Taking "catches" out of your turning habits will make your turning easier and a whole lot more fun.

## FORWARD PROGRAM and REMINDERS

### **HANDS ON DAY.**

Don't forget, at the January monthly meeting we will be participating in a Hands On day. Please bring along your tools, wood and plan will be provided.

### **MARCH MEETING.**

As Graham mentioned at the 2015 breakup, the scheduled March meeting will fall on Easter Saturday. A decision will have to be made whether to have a hands on day or to cancel the meeting altogether. If the former is decided on, members will have to step forward and run the day as many of the Committee will be away for the weekend.

### **CLUB SESSIONS.**

Club sessions (Monday night critique, Wednesday turners and Thursday beginners) are scheduled to commence again on the week following the meeting.

Bert feared his wife Peg wasn't hearing as well as she used to and he thought she might need a hearing aid. Not quite sure how to approach her, he called the family Doctor to discuss the problem. The Doctor told him there is a simple informal test the husband could perform to give the Doctor a better idea about her hearing loss.

'Here's what you do,' said the Doctor, 'stand about 40 feet away from her, and in a normal conversational speaking tone see if she hears you. If not, go to 30 feet, then 20 feet, and so on until you get a response.'

That evening, the wife is in the kitchen cooking dinner, and he was in the lounge. He says to himself, 'I'm about 40 feet away, let's see what happens.' Then in a normal tone he asks, 'Darl, what's for dinner?'

No response.

So the husband moves closer to the kitchen, about 30 feet from his wife and repeats, 'Peg, what's for dinner?'

Still no response.

Next he moves into the dining room where he is about 20 feet from his Wife and asks, 'Darl, what's for dinner?'

Again he gets no response.

So, he walks up to the kitchen door, about 10 feet away. 'Darl, what's for dinner?'

Again there is no response.

So he walks right up behind her. 'Peg, what's for dinner?'

'For crying out loud, Bert, for the FIFTH time, CHICKEN!'

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*



Novice Platter  
1<sup>st</sup> Place - John Osborne  
Australian Woodturning Exhibition 2015

If unable to deliver please return to Graham Besley, 14 Hunt St. North Balwyn 3104