

VOL 9/16

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

September 2016

Greetings to all members as I write my first President's Report as the new president. I am writing this having just returned from a weekend away at Philip Island attending Down Under Turn Around. This year they celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday. The weekend saw a gathering of about 120 woodturners assemble in the gymnasium of a camp venue in Cowes with their lathes,



wood and wood shaping implements to share the weekend sharing ideas and knowledge, encourage each other, create some impressive items, attempt their hand at something new, and generally have fun enjoying each other's company. If you have never been to an event like this before (this was my first) I would thoroughly recommend it. I did not do much turning but I learnt heaps. The last thing I did before leaving was to pay a deposit for the next year's Down Under Turn Around which will be on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> of September 2017.

It was a busy weekend for the woodies with some of our members demonstrating at Schwerkolts Cottage as part of Whitehorse heritage week. The working with wood show was also held this weekend. If anyone attended either of these events they might like to share the experience at the September meeting.

I hope you have all been busy with the President's Challenge to create a top. Although it could be a simple task I would encourage you all to stretch your skills and have a go at making a top that is a bit of a challenge for you. The tops will be judged by the Monday night group with a prize for the best, so make sure you have them ready for the **October** meeting.

Next month the guild will be demonstrating at the Springfest which will be on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> of October. We will require volunteers to either make some chips fly as they demonstrate turning or to man a table and interact with the public answering questions. There will be a table available where items you have turned can be offered for sale. With Christmas approaching there will be people looking for gifts to purchase.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting and seeing the tops you have made.

Richard.

*Some bush wisdom;- Never approach a bull from in front, a horse from behind or a fool from any direction.*

*Even a fool is thought wise if keeps silent, and discerning if he holds his tongue. Proverbs 17:28*

### AGM



Once the general club business for the month was over, Graham handed proceedings over to Ray Dennis who declared all positions vacant. Richard Jardine was nominated and elected president but unfortunately nobody was prepared to take up the VP role. To avoid holding up proceedings the meeting moved on and the incumbent Treasurer and Secretary, Geoff Eaton and Ian Absalom respectively, stepped up to continue their roles. Finally, Tony Zammit and Tim Denyer offered their services as normal committee members. Returning to the VP position, Mal Jackson kindly offered to fill the position for a limited and maximum period of 3 months, thereby avoiding any legal issues regarding our incorporation. It is essential that somebody fill this position within the 3 month period else it will become vacant effecting our incorporation status. Graham Besley as Immediate Past President completes the Committee.

### BRIAN CHRISTIAN AWARD

This year's Brian Christian Award has been presented to Ray Denis. Ray has been a member of the club for many years and has represented the Guild on the AWTEx Committee both as an ordinary member and as President. Although we have seen little of Ray's turning over the last few years, he certainly showed that his turning has developed by taking out 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Novelty Section of this year's AWTEx with his stunning penny farthing bicycle. Congratulation Ray, well deserved.



## LIFE MEMBER AWARD



The committee made the decision this year to award Life Membership to Ray Smith. Ray's contribution to the Guild has been outstanding. Ray has run the Thursday afternoon beginner's class for very many years and many of us owe our developing skills on the firm foundations that his instruction provided. Ray has served on the Committee as a general member, Vice President, President and Talking Turning Editor. Congratulations Ray, I couldn't think of a more worthy recipient.

## AUGUST SHOW AND TELL Led by Cliff Walsh

Well, everyone has found time to get back to their lathes, judging on the number of items shown!



Charles Mercer tried out Andrew Potocnik's method of texturing the rim of a eucalypt bowl, using tinted gel paste. He also brought an ash lidded container with Wenge top & bottom. Wenge is a hard African timber, which he bought from Matthews – cheaper than Ebony. Both finished with Danish oil.



Arthur Sankey turned this Silky Oak bowl in 1993, two years after the tree was cut down. It continued to change shape after he stopped working on it. Finish unknown. Problem : Define "seasoned".



Geoff Easton made a (nearly) pair of Photinia bowls. The blanks were cut from one piece of spalted wood. Photinia is harder than Cottoneaster.

Geoff made the "family" of bowls on the right from Photinia also, except for the Privet one to the left of the group.





Tim Denyer brought two items in his favourite wood – Redgum. The lidded container started as a bowl, until Ray Smith suggested he make the lid & finial for it. Finished with EEE.



Graham Besley made this lidded container from an unknown wood. The ring on the table supports it upright.

The ginger jar, decorated with carving, is Camellia. Finish is Danish oil & Jo Sonja metallic paint.

The bowl is Crepe Myrtle, decorated with an airbrush over Frisket film masks.



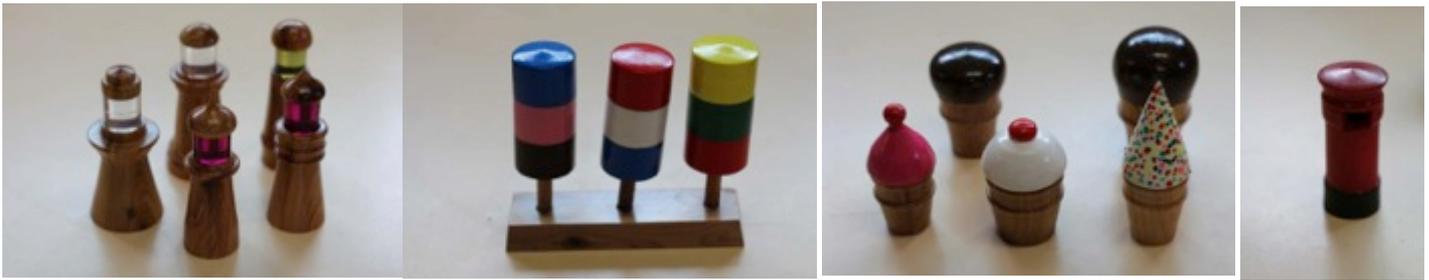
Val Dalsanto brought some finished, & some unfinished works. The “cage” is Pine & Blackwood, polished with EEE. The lidded container is Laburnum, finished with Glow wax. The raw Pine (?) lidded container’s lid has been offset turned, as has the whole of the “triangular” one next to it. The stein is probably Oak, with a blue stain.



John Osborne (2) borrowed some ideas from Andrew Potocnik as well! The bowl rim is textured with gel paste, and then decorated with gilders paste.

The Redgum & Yellow Box hollow form is really a deep bowl with a pierced lid glued on and finished with acrylic gloss spray.

The Christmas decorations are his first attempt at turning thin-walled spheres, & the finials were not designed. He thinks one turned out better than the other. One is finished with acrylic gloss the other is oiled.



Peter Jurrjens has been very busy making lidded boxes for his grandson to check inside. All are Cypress from old fence posts, finished with a variety of methods. The paint is acrylic, protected with artists gloss – spray gloss affected the white paint.

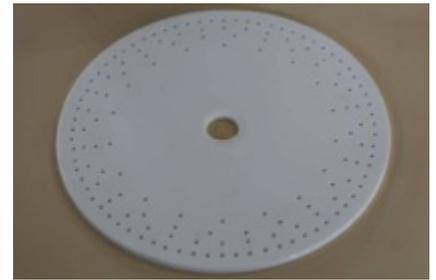
The letterbox is red acrylic dye, black text, finished with superglue. Wood is finished with Shellawax, then undergoes his 3-step buffing procedure – EEE, white diamond & Carnauba wax. For the lighthouses, he had to learn to cast resin, using materials & clear lucent colouring from Brendan Stemp.



Hopefully, the last examples are all by David Scott – if not, please accept our apology. The first lidded container is Camphor Laurel, with the dark rims top & bottom using a dark piece of wood from a pallet. The laminated Bamboo in the next lidded container is used for kitchen bench tops (40-50mm thick). Bamboo is harvested after 3 years growth (it's a grass, not a tree), & compressed to about 6mm sheets – no glue is needed. These sheets are then laminated together. Colour is a reflection of time in the drying kiln – longer = darker. The next container is Peppercorn, with Redgum plugs & finial. The last is Redgum, with light-coloured wood (?) inlaid into the lid. The 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> containers are finished with two coats of slate sealer.

There are two further items without photographs – whoops, one is the new president! Richard Jardine has made a Silver Ash bottle/vase from a piece of timber, which already had a grey discolouration. Finished with Aussie oil. Cliff Walsh is a member of the American Woodturners, & won one of their monthly prize draws, which was a Hunter Tools voucher to the value of US\$100. He chose a Tungsten Carbide shear-cutting disk.

Peter Jurgens was the first cab off the rank with seven items to show. First up was his indexing wheel. He built this as it is not inbuilt into his lathe. It consists of a corian wheel drilled with four rings of holes spaced at 5, 10, 15 and 20 degrees. This allows him to set his index at any angle from 5deg. The jig also consists of a spring loaded pin assembly which mounts on his lathe bed to engage the holes in the disk.



Next up was peter's drilling jig consisting of a dowelling jig mounted on a Sorby tool post. The dowelling jig comes with several adapter for various drill sizes allowing him to accurately drill pieces mounted on his lathe.

Peter's next item was his deep hollowing thickness calipers. Peter has tried making his own and looked at buying locally made but decided on this 10" and 13" pair made in the US which are heavier gauge and more durable than others and only cost \$10 more delivered.

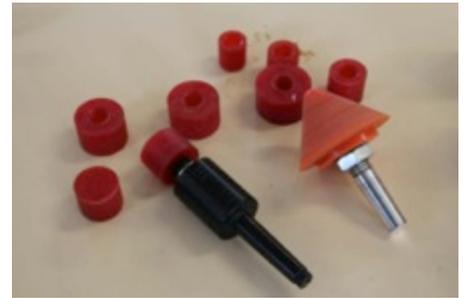


Sanding discs into Jacob's chuck. Threaded bolt through headstock to hold in place. Jacob's chuck has threaded section.

Tailstock live centre with inserted dowel to hold small items in place when reversed to turn bottom section. The advantage to this method is that the tailstock is well back out of the way and it doesn't damage the tool if it touches the dowel while working on the piece.



“One Way” revolving tails stock attachments in plastic



Tail stock support with 2 wheels to allow completion of final centre section in base of bowl. Wheels can be adjusted to alternate positions.



John Wheeler was next up and showed the amazing setup at left. It was designed by a friend of his in the Sunbury club and is designed to provide very accurate sizing cuts. The depth of cut is set using the screw adjustment at the rear with the cutter pulled all the way in using the trigger. The trigger is released and with the piece rubbing on the guide at the front, the trigger is pulled and the parting tool moves forward to the stop providing an accurate repeatable cut. Unfortunately, it has proved hazardous with a tendency to catch so John sticks to his home made thin parting tool at right.



John uses the device at left to grind short tools.

The wire clips at right John finds useful to keep his sandpaper together and makes it easy to hang close to the lathe



Alan Thomson's preferred jam chuck at left which consists of four cleats nailed to the backing and turned to match the object being worked on. If a slightly too large a cut is made, Alan suggested a paper tissue is suitable to hold the object in.



Richard Jardine prefers a donut chuck to finish the bottom of pieces. The one at right has a smaller insert to allow him to use the chuck on smaller pieces. Richard also made the curved toolpost below from 3/8" steel bent to shape. He finds it useful for both inside and outside bowls.



Charlie Mercer dug up this large band clamp at the Wantirna market. He uses it to clamp segmented pieces while gluing.

Val Dalsanto uses the simple chuck adapter at right for turning offset pendants. The blank is held to the front with double sided tape and the square section being held in the chuck jaws can be moved along to provide the offset.



Val Dalsanto made the tool at left to cut the groove for the crush grind pepper grinder mechanism jaws. He finds it accurate enough to mark the depth required for the groove on the shaft.

Val Dalsanto designed the clamp setup at right to hold small pieces while they are being worked on. It provides solid clamping using a cam action while being soft enough that it doesn't damage the item being clamped.



Graham Besley used the device at left to machine several of his turnings entered in AWTEEx this year. It consists of an XY vice onto which a die grinder has been attached. The whole assembly clamps to his lathe bed and is used by setting the cutter to the required depth and rotating the piece by hand to perform the cut.

Graham Besley also mentioned to emmbers that the airbrush setup at right is a club resource which he had used recently to decorate the piece. It is stored in the workshop and is available for loan to members.



## TOYS FOR COUNTRY HOPE

Another huge effort by several members saw a large haul of toys for the Country Hope kids. It was again left to the 'usual suspects' to provide this year's offering prompting Vice President Graham to ask for more member involvement in these type of community activities. The toys were presented to Larry Sloane from the Wagga turning group at the Down Under Turn Around and he was extremely happy to receive the toys and assured me that the children really enjoyed painting them. As usual, it was up to the Monday night team to select an item for the John Atkinson Award. After selecting several finalists the winner was decided by secret ballot. This year's winner will be announced at the September meeting

Congratulations to the finalists, the winner and to all those that contributed to this worthwhile community service



Finalists



This year's toy donation

## SCHWERKOLT COTTAGE

8 members turned up to demo at the annual Schwerkolt Cottage demo. A large crowd was in attendance and a few items were sold which added to the Guild's coffers. Pencil boxes, dibbers and bag carriers were snapped up by the public but as usual it was tops which proved most popular with quite a few dozen being made, decorated and handed out. Many thanks to those who participated and especially those that helped Val and Ian set up and pull down and those who helped with the cleanup.





Some photos from the Down under turnaround at Phillip Island. The first two show the setup of the gymnasium the bottom photo is of home made copy turn set up used for duplicating shapes for pepper grinders,



## FORWARD PROGRAM and REMINDERS

### **SEPTEMBER MEETING.**

The September meeting will commence as usual at 9:00. The demonstrator this month will be Val Dalsonto who will be demonstrating how to make weed pots.

### **ANNUAL SUBS.**

Yup, it's that time of the year again when a treasurer's fancy turns to subscriptions. In a unanimous gesture your Committee voted to keep the subs at \$50 again this year and this was wholly endorsed by the members at the AGM. Many members paid up at the August AGM (that explains the smile on the treasurer's face this month!). Geoff will be available and more than happy to collect the money of those who haven't yet coughed up at the September meeting. If you won't be there, contact Geoff to arrange an alternate payment method.

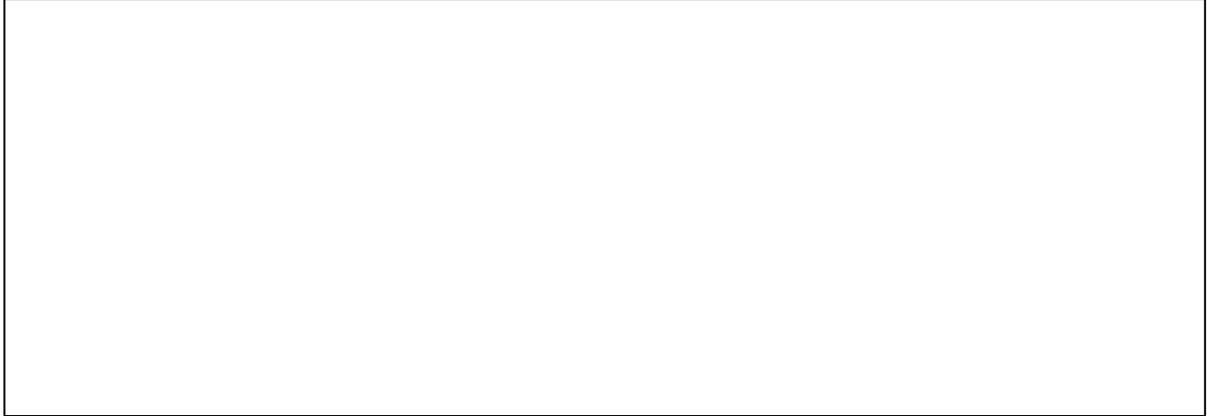
### **SPRINGFEST.**

The guild will be demonstrating at the Nunawading Springfest this year. The festival this year will be held between 10AM and 4PM on the 16<sup>TH</sup> October. Festival details are available on the City of Whitehorse web site (<http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Spring-Festival.html>). As usual, Richard will call for demonstrators at the September meeting and we hope that you will consider putting your name down and join us on the day for an hour or so. These demos are a great way to raise the profile of the Guild in the community and is well received by the public and all in all, is a fun day.

### **PRESIDENTS CHALLENGE**

Hopefully you have all been turning your spinning tops for the Presidents October challenge. It will be interesting to see all the different designs that have been turned. Don't forget there is a prize attached to the best entry as judged by the president.

**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 Novelty Item  
1st Place - Ray Dennis  
Australian Woodturning Exhibition 2016