



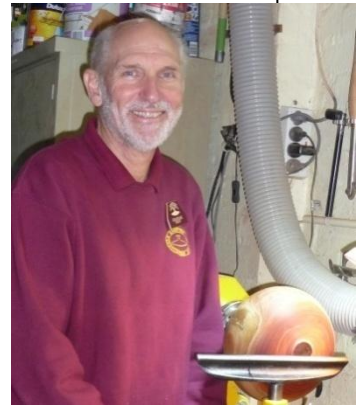
VOL 5/16

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

May 2016

Once again I extend our thanks for an informative and entertaining demo by John McBrinn at last month's meeting. We are lucky to have such a talented turner in the Guild who is prepared to pass on his skills and knowledge.

I hope many of you have entered a piece or two into this year's Australian Woodturning Exhibition. There has been some thoughts expressed that this exhibition is primarily catering to experienced turners. I beg to disagree. As your President I believe it is incumbent on me to encourage all members to have a go with an entry. I keep coming back to the Guilds guiding motto; "promoting excellence and fellowship in woodturning". What does "excellence" mean?? I believe it encourages members to challenge themselves to improve skills, no matter at what level of ability we have, and to enjoy the journey. The AWTEx is just one way to take up the challenge of making your best item yet. Anyway, some food for discussion.



This year a number of our Committee members are stepping down after providing an outstanding contribution to the running of the Guild. Amongst these are Jim Pagonis and John Osborne. The roles of Talking Turning Editor and Demonstration Organiser are keys to the functioning of the Guild. I encourage any member that has not yet served on the Committee to have a go. The role of managing both the website and talking turning is a demanding one and perhaps we are better to share the duty across a couple of committee members.

Safety; I am aware that a couple of members have recently sustained injuries in their workshops. Unfortunately familiarity with our equipment makes us all vulnerable to workshop hazards. To encourage each of us to take time for safety, we will put articles into Talking Turning to help keep awareness up. This month's article covers faceshields.

Many of you have taken AWTEx raffle tickets to sell, money and ticket stubs are due to be returned at our May meeting next weekend. If you are unable to return them next week, then please ensure they are returned to a Committee member so that the Guild can claim the \$1 per ticket sold.

Our May meeting features another of our very own top turners, Cliff Walsh will be demonstrating. I understand that Cliff will be joined by Tracy Malady from Forest Hills. This will be another meeting not to be missed. I hope we have another good crop of items for Show and Tell.

Success is never achieved by the size of our brain but it is always achieved by the quality of our thoughts. (Unknown)

See you at the meeting, Graham

MAY SHOW AND TELL Led by Max Lehmann



Geoff Easton completed these two pair of bowls to compare Danish Oil to Livos Kunos Oil. He reported that the results are similar and felt that the Kunos was slightly easier to apply. The pair on the left are Weeping cherry and those on the right an unknown timber.



Di Bermingham produced the mushroom (toadstool) to replace one that was purloined from a display that she helped setup at the Flower and Garden show. She enjoyed making it so much she produced four in Cotoneaster finished in EEE and wax

Graham Beasley produced these fine examples of Kokeshi dolls. He has made a few for friend and family and is now producing a Samurai version for his grandson. He has done an extraordinary job of painting them using Jo Sonja paints and finished with gloss polyurethane.



Charles Mercer has been busy. The Goblet at left is in an unknown timber but has been stained and finished in Danish Oil. The fine potpourrie, top right, is in Cyprus with a segmented top ring supporting a pewter cover. The Red Gum lidded container below it has a pewter base, handle and ring.



Rick Hillier brought along the clock at left. This one is in Black Heart Sassafras with Ebonised Cherry legs and finials. Unfortunately he managed to break off one of the finials during transit to the meeting but not to worry, it will be reattached and I'm sure will be seen at the AWTE in June.



Val Dalsanto brought along his usual swag of items including a tea light holder with heart feature (left), A couple of Lidded containers – top right in Laburnum with a Queen Ebony (Solomon Island Blackwood) lid and bottom right in pear with a Queen Ebony lid. The small box below left is also in Queen Ebony.



Richard Jardine brought along the pepper grinder “work-in-progress” at right. It is in Huon Pine



Another “work-in-progress” (left) by Max Lehmann is this bowl in Fijian Mahogany with Redgum rim and base. Max produces this kind of item in native timbers and sells them in Fiji to raise money for a local Fijian charity.



The earring tree at left by David Caddy is in Huon Pine. David has made three of these out of some nicely figured timber which has some nice bird’s eye feature.

Ray Smith Made this lovely lidded container in Tiger Myrtle. It features an insert in the lid and is exceptionally well finished both inside and outside.





John Osborne(2) brought along the miniature segmented jar at left which stand under 50mm high and contains about 300 pieces. The pair of bud vases at right are in Zebrano and are his first attempt at an identical pair. The three bowls below (L to R) are: Black Heart Sassafras finished in Danish Oil, a segmented experiment in Walnut and American Ash finished in Kunos Oil and a 'bowl from a board' sprayed with acrylic gloss.



SEPTEMBER DEMONSTRATOR – John McBrinn



The demonstrator for April was our own John McBrinn who introduced us to his method of producing ebonised veneer he followed up this short talk on the method he employs to make spheres. As usual John was entertaining and informative. He finished the demo with a slideshow and description of the making of his complex laminated candle holders (right). This is not described here but we hope to prepare a document for the web site soon.



Ebonising Veneer

John has developed the following method as dyed veneer tends to be rather expensive and he goes through a lot of it. What follows is a brief description of his method but it is still under development as there are lots of variables.

John has found that the best veneer to use is one with a coarse grain. He sources his from Pop's Shed where it is relatively inexpensive. A handful of coarse steel wool (Ted's Bargain Center) is added to about 3 liters of white vinegar. After 24 hours the steel wool is removed and left for 24 hours to accelerate rusting and then put back in the vinegar. After a week or so, yellow scum will form and settle to the bottom. Carefully pour off the liquid without disturbing the scum. You may have to stop and let the scum settle again if it is disturbed. You don't want any of the scum transferred. An exceedingly strong solution of black tea is made up. The tannin in the tea helps to get a really black effect.

The actual method is to lay the veneer in the tea solution in a tray for 3 to 4 days, remove it and allow it to dry completely then add it to the vinegar solution for 3 to 4 days. Then repeat if necessary.

John advises wearing gloves as it will really stain the skin.

Turning a Sphere

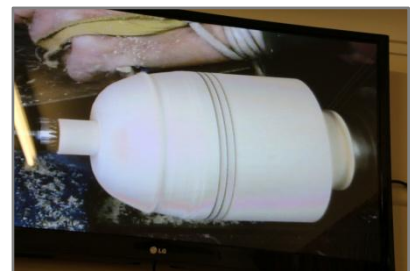
The second part of John's demo involved showing his method of turning a sphere. John has tried many methods but has found the following method successful for him. He stressed that others may find another method better for them so find a method that works for you.

John uses several templates made from 18-20mm thick plywood or MDF. He first turns the outside and transfers the template to a set of cole jaws and turns the inside very accurately to the size of the sphere. He then parts the template for two 9-10mm halves. One of the templates is cut in half, one half retained and then other is trimmed to about 1/3 of a circle. The result is three templates, one a full circle on half a circle and the other about 1/3 of a circle.

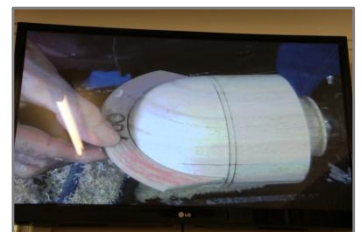
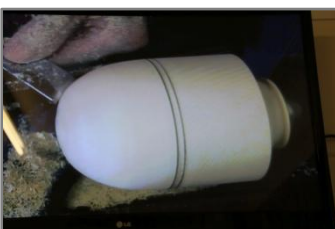


The blank is loaded and a cylinder is turned that matches the full circle template exactly.

The ends of the blank are marked to match the width and the cylinder parted down to about 1/3 the width at both ends of the sphere. The centre is marked and again about 5mm or so each side of the centre line. He uses the line at the side of centre to make sure he doesn't turn all the way to the centre while rough turning. Using a gouge he then turns down the tailstock side of the sphere roughly by eye.



Remove the tailstock and take off the 'nub' with a parting tool and then refine the curve using a skew as a negative rake scraper. The curve should be checked often using the half template. Adjust the curve with the scraper until it exactly fits the template.



The second side is then turned. John pointed out that the gouge can also be used to refine the curve as a scraper by turning it face on to the surface.





Once again, the profile is checked often as the curve is being refined, this time using the 1/3 template. Double check the curve before parting off. John advised using a superglue wash prior to the finishing cuts should tearout occur from the scraping. He told us that after treatment the end grain will cut as well as side grain.



Part off and load into a donut chuck to finish off the end. John makes a donut chuck for each ball size. The inside of the chuck is turned to match the sphere's profile and is lined with rubber drawer liner to prevent slippage.



Turn off the 'nub' with a skew and once again refine the curve using a skew as a scraper and the templates. Once complete the sphere should be a tight fit through the full template (right).



Safety Thoughts for May:

It's useful to stop and think about safety issues every so often so we don't become complacent. ***Let's look at eye protection this month.***

Having at least minimal protection in place to reduce the chances that flying projectiles will reach and damage the eyes or face should be a common sense no-brainer for anyone who intends to stand at the lathe. Full face shields provide the protection needed for bowls, vessels, or any turning involving chucks and faceplates. At a minimum, use safety goggles or safety glasses that have side protectors when turning small items.

Face shields give the best protection, BUT there are many different types of faceshields designed for various purposes. Do you know what kind of faceshield is good for your protection while turning? The simplest and cheapest is a splash shield designed for chemical (liquid) splashes. Its thin plastic shield is not strong enough to protect, even from medium-sized flying wood objects.

The aluminum rim merely supports the flimsy plastic to help hold its shape. The metal rim actually presents a greater hazard because if the plastic is shattered, or simply deflected by a flying object, the aluminum can be forced into your face.

The correct type of faceshield woodturners should wear is the thick polycarbonate (PC) shield without the metal rim. When purchasing a polycarbonate faceshield check its rating standard. USA faceshield standard is Z87+ (as opposed to just Z87). Basic-impact lenses must pass a "drop ball" test: a 1"-diameter steel ball being dropped on the lens from 50 inches (127cm).

High-impact lenses must pass a “high velocity” test where 6mm steel balls are shot at different velocities. For faceshields, that’s 300 ft/s (~205 mph, 329 km/h). Thus, the high-impact (Z87+) standard requires the faceshield to withstand more than five times the kinetic energy of the basic-impact standard (Z87) (4.41 joules vs. 0.84 joules).

Australian “extra high energy resistant” shields can withstand a kinetic energy impact of 15 joules.

To put these impact levels into context consider the following...

A 50 gram fragment from a 180mm bowl turning at 1200rpm will have an kinetic energy impact of 3.1 joules. If the above bowl is spinning at 2200 rpm, then the possible impact of the 50 gram fragment will increase to 10.5 joules!!

Even worse, a 200 gram fragment off a 300mm platter spinning at 1200rpm will have an impact kinetic energy of 37 joules.

To protect from these larger chunks at high revs would require something such as an American Riot faceshield with an impact resistance of 111 joules

Instead of a simple faceshield, some turners prefer a powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR), However many of these have thinner shields than the Z87+ standard. Knowing of possible failure of thinner shields with reinforcement, one should be careful to establish the impact resistance of such equipment.

Is your faceshield adequate??

Information for this review was taken from a number of safety articles issued by the American Association of Woodturning.

FORWARD PROGRAM and REMINDERS

MAY MEETING.

We will be graced with two demonstrators this month; Cliff Walsh will be turning a lidded container and will be joined by Tracy Malady who will be covering finials.

SHOW AND TELL.

Don’t forget your S&T items this month. It has been mentioned that we only see successes at Show and Tell and it would be good to see a failure or two. If you have a disaster that you would like to share, bring it along and let’s show the newer members that the more advanced turners have failures too!

2016 AWTEx

Hopefully everyone has submitted their entry paperwork and any last minute touch ups are underway. As per the conditions of entry, your pieces: “will be received in the foyer of the Warratah Room, Whitehorse Centre on Tuesday 2nd June 2015 from 1.30pm – 8.30pm. Exhibits are NOT to be delivered to the Whitehorse Centre prior to this date and time”. Good luck to all those that are exhibiting.

AWTEx RAFFLE TICKETS.

All ticket books and monies must be returned by this month’s meeting. Remember, the club gets half the money so do your best to sell all of your allocation. Those that already paid for their books, make sure you return the stubbs to Geoff to make sure they’re in the draw.

NUNAWADING LIBRARY DISPLAY.

Our annual display at the Nunawading Library commences on June 24th. We are hoping that a few members will loan some of their high quality pieces for a bit until we gather some exhibition pieces at the June meeting to bolster the display.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES.

Last month, Graham asked members present at the meeting if they were getting all they wanted from the club. He asked for suggestions for additional activities to enhance our membership. Some of the ideas put forward included:

- Visits to other clubs
- Recommencing the annual open day
- Charity work (maybe a combined project like the doll’s house and carousel)
- Having more newer members to display items in Show and Tell
- Sales and promotions (markets, etc.)

If you have comment on any of these or have any ideas that you might like to put forward, feel free to approach a Committee member at the meeting or even by phone or email. We’d love to hear your thoughts.

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*



Intermediate Clock
1st Place - Graham Besley
Australian Woodturning Exhibition 2015