



VOL 4/17

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

APRIL 2017

Hello once again. I hope this edition of Talking Turning finds you all well and that you have had a wonderful Easter.

The months seem to be slipping by, before long we will be having our next AGM. Hopefully we will find the right people for Vice President and Webmaster! These positions are still open and need filling.

Many thanks go to Geoff Easton who ran the March meeting. All went well while he was at the helm in my absence. Due to a commitment I made a year ago my wife and I were supporting a group of cyclists as they rode around the bay over the Saturday and Sunday. I was sorry to miss Clarrie as he demonstrated turning some platters. All reports say that this was a great demonstration and he held the attention of the audience very well. He also brought along some wood for sale, which was well received. Thanks to Tony Zammit for organising Clarrie to demonstrate.



An important reminder for those who told Di Birmingham that they would make some items for her to display at the Floral Art Society show in May. You will need to bring those items to this meeting to give to Di as the show is next month.

A reminder that the entry forms for work pieces going into this years AWTEX exhibition need to be submitted by Friday 19th May. This is less than 5 weeks away so get turning. Hopefully you have got some ideas for your submissions.

I have also had a request from Rachelle Leaver from AWTEX. They will be having an area where clubs can place their brochures and have the opportunity to talk to members of the public visiting the show. In order to make this a success they would like to invite the clubs to participate manning this area where we will put a table and chairs. Rachelle points out that it will be a great opportunity to raise the awareness of wood clubs and have a recruitment drive. You will receive a free ticket to the show so that you can view the show before or after manning the stall. If you are interested please let me know. I will be putting my name down and would be happy to have some company. If you are interested please let me know so I can reply before next Friday 21st.

Last weekend I had the pleasure of demonstrating at Carbatec. They say that to teach is to learn twice. In my case this could not be a bad thing. During my research I came across this quote in Wikipedia. "Woodturning appeals to people who like to work with their hands, find pleasure in problem-solving, or enjoy the tactile and visual qualities of wood." I think I can tick all boxes here and I know from the work I have seen at the Guild that I am not alone.

On the subject of making things and solving problems, the "About" page of the Melbourne Guild Of Fine Woodworking quotes the tutor of Alastair Boell who founded the guild in 2007. I would like to share it with you as it speaks of the importance of hand skills and making things.

"Hand skills are integral to our development mentally as well as physically. The relevancy of hand-skills training has come into question. What we have now is the perception that high-tech training programs are relevant and responsive to the needs of society and not manual skills training. We are of the opinion that manual arts training and hand skills are relevant to conceptual skills. The value of manual skills training to both the individual and society is now becoming more apparent. As we become disillusioned, perhaps, with the technological improvements, and we see that we are more and more disconnected from the way things are made and the

processes, we are more able to understand the loss of culture and the knowledge that is imbedded in hand made things, then the value in hand-skills training is more and more apparent”.

Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez

President

North Bennett Street School (NBSS)

I guess in a round about way he is saying that our mental faculties are heightened when we improve our hand skills. This is particularly evident for any wood turning project where we use both our hand skills and mental problem solving. When these are no longer seen as important then both individuals and our culture suffer.

Personally I lament the passing of the days when products were made to last and much effort would be spent keeping them in working order because a replacement was too expensive. This often led to thought if it failed as to how the item was made so it could be opened up to see if a repair was possible without parting any money for the repairman. No doubt, our world is a lot more reliable now, particularly in the automotive area. Now however, household goods are seldom repaired, as it is cheaper and quicker to replace them with cheap items from overseas. Perhaps this is responsible in part for the demise of the ubiquitous farmers fix of hay twine and fencing wire that could repair (or get going again) just about anything. I believe our culture is loosing touch with how so much is made and consequently how so much works.

Enough of my ramblings. At the April meeting we can see Charles Mercer putting his hand skills to work showing us how to include pewter in woodturning. I look forward to the demonstration and to catching up with you all at the meeting.

Regards.

Richard Jardine

MARCH SHOW & TELL led by ROSS GABRIEL



John Osborne (2) turned this segmented bowl from Walnut and Maple. He had trouble with the small circular "dots" falling out as he thinned the sides. He then had to re-glue them back in place. Finished with spray acrylic.
The offset-turned egg cup is American Black Walnut.



One of the small Walnut and Maple lidded containers became a hollow form instead. The middle one is Huon Pine and Purple Heart. They are all finished with acrylic spray.



Val Dalsanto made a family of ducks, and a nest of Redgum bowls.



Frank Larsen's barley-twist clock moved slightly when the top and bottom were glued on. The "fob" watch is Jarrah with gold leaf. The Camphor Laurel lidded bowl was made for his daughter, but she didn't want a knob on the lid - hence the fingernail groove to open it. Both items finished with Danish Oil.



Ian Absolom is entering the mushroom game (left). The hollow one on the left is a milk mushroom, complete with drain tube so it doesn't fill with water while out on the lawn. Finished with Acrylic paint.

Joe Walker made this segmented bowl (right) with Walnut, Cherry and Maple. He provided a laminated segment.



Ray Smith's three-legged bowl (below) is Myrtle and finished with Danish Oil.



Charles Mercer made this lidded container (left) from Claret Ash and Wenge. He has yet to complete the finial with a ball end. Wenge is prone to chipping instead of cutting cleanly.



Ron Dunston's half dozen Blackwood eggs (above right) cleverly transform into egg cups.



Max Lehmann made two circular bowls from Redgum, one larger than the other, then halved each of them and rejoined the pieces to make this S-shaped bowl. Danish Oil finish.



David Caddy rescued an old Oregon beam from his carport to make the bud vase on the left, complete with splits and traces of 70's Mission Brown. The other vase is made from a Silky Oak branch with a stress crack. Both are finished with Shellawax.



Mal Jackson turned the handle of this cheese knife from Huon Pine and Redgum.



Roger Annells made a very nice bowl from a very ordinary scrap of wood.

Thankyou to Ray Smith for taking the photos of show and tell and the demonstration at the March meeting. Also thankyou as always to David Caddy for taking notes and writing up the monthly meeting activities.

MARCH DEMONSTRATION by CLARRIE GLASS

This month's demonstrator was Clarrie Glass from the Eildon & District Woodworkers Guild. Their Guild was set up in 1987, and now has significant work space in the Alexandra Community Shed, in conjunction with the Timber Tramways Association museum. The Guild has woodturning on Tuesdays, and cabinet making on Thursdays. They have their own slabbing mill, and make some replaceable-tip tools.. Before he commenced turning for us, he talked about their activities, and showed us some of his work – an impressive array of items on the table!



In order to get the most out of a thin turning blank, glue a square (approx. 50mm) block of ply or hardwood to one side. This can be held in a four-jaw chuck, without having to be rounded, and can be accurately aligned to the centre of the blank by placing its corners on a pair of right-angle lines through the centre. If a spigot is also required on the other side, the same method could be used, but Clarrie prefers to use the tailstock to centre and hold it while the first spigot is still in the chuck.



Clarrie has made his own tools for about twenty years. These have a HSS tip silver-soldered into a mild steel shaft, which is thicker and more rigid than the HSS tip. The steel shaft has four grooves in the handle end, to allow excess glue and air to escape when putting it into a wooden handle. The tips can be replaced by heating the solder joint. He resharpens his tools with a flat diamond plate (Ezilap) held at the cutting angle, until the grinding wheel hollow disappears, then regrinds the full hollow bevel.



Three of Clarrie's tools. He also showed us a bowl gouge made from a large piston engine gudgeon pin – apparently high-class steel.

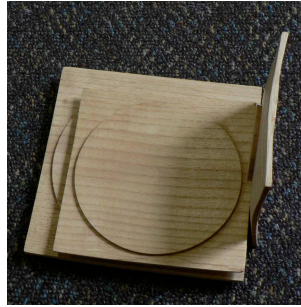
Clarrie demonstrated making a platter with a photo or plaque inset. A square spigot on the back initially holds the blank. He uses a pull cut to flatten the face and edges, and then marks the recess for the plaque with callipers. This is roughly hollowed to the required depth with a bowl gouge, then he squares up at the exact diameter with one of his round skew chisels. A final pull cut with the bowl gouge completes the recess.

With a series of inside and outside cuts he then creates a small spigot, which is sized for his chuck jaws, in the centre of the recess. This enables holding the platter to shape the back, and to clean the square spigot off. AND...it's hidden under the plaque, so he doesn't have to subsequently remove it too!

Any rigid insert (eg ceramic or glass) in a wooden platter should be glued in with a flexible material (eg Silastic) so that movement in the wood can occur.



Clarrie uses Feast Watson sanding sealer, forced into the spinning timber with a rag, so that the friction heat dries it. He then uses U Beaut EEE polish – still made in Geelong. Some more of Clarrie's work is shown below.



Eildon & District Woodworkers Guild has a Facebook page : <https://www.facebook.com/Eildon-District-Woodworkers-Guild-Inc-Alexandra-Community-Shed-884789928280896/>. They have a wood show in October, and their display and exhibition at the Alexandra Community Shed in Station Street.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL MEETING

- 22nd April
Demonstration. Charles Mercer will be demonstrating how to incorporate pewter into your woodturning
- May demonstrator will be Cliff Walsh
- September 17 Schwerkolt Cottage

The following was received from the convenor for the Heritage day at Schwerkolt Cottage
The theme this year is "Remember the Old School Days" and we were hoping your group would be able to make and sell some items in line with the theme. We have had several suggestions which may or may not be practical and one suggestion was that your group may be able to make simple "Knitting Nancy" (French Knitting) which would tie in with the textile exhibitors that come each year.

NOTICES

- Bring along your items for Di to the April meeting. Di Birmingham will be at the April Meeting to accept items to display or sell at the Floral Art Society show on May 3rd. A good chance for you to sell some woodturning. See Di for details.
- AWTEX entries close 19th. May
- **Alcove Gallery.** If you wish to submit items for sale at the Alcove Gallery bring your items along at March meeting and give them to Geoff Easton. Also provide Geoff with a sheet with your name, description of the piece, timber and price. Remember the Alcove takes 25% and the guild 10%. Maximum of three items per member.
- **Face shields.** There are still 2 face shields available for \$40, see Geoff if you are interested.

WOODIES SWAP MEET
Ballarat Show Grounds
SATURDAY MAY 13TH 2017
Buy Swap Sell

All stalls undercover

More information www.ballaratwoodies.com.au

Free to a good home. If you are interested in the saw below contact Alan Thomson. It is a Black and Decker 10inch xpert table saw.



SENIOR TEENAGER

I am a Seenager(Senior Teenager) I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driver's licence and my own car. I have ID that gets me into bars and the wine store. I like the wine store best. The people I hang around are not scared of getting pregnant, they aren't scared of anything, they have been blessed to live this long, why be scared.

And I don't have acne!! Life is good! Also you will feel much more intelligent after reading this, if you are a Seenager. Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age, it just takes them longer to recall all the facts because they have more information in their brains, scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing as it puts pressure on your inner ear.

Much like a computer struggles as the hard drive gets full, so too, do humans take longer to access information when their brains are full. Also older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is NOT A MEMORY PROBLEM, it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

ENJOY BEING A SEENAGER

Some of you may remember Col a former member of Koonung Woodturning Guild.



**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



Open Identical Pair
1st Place - John McBrinn
Australian Woodturning Exhibition 2016

If unable to deliver please return to Richard Jardine 15 Cunningham St. Box Hill 3128