

# TURNING TALK

## Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild

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Number 121 : March 2004

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### Coming Events

- Thames Society of Arts Summer Exhibition, 26 February to 14 March 2004
- Timber and Working with Wood Show, 12 to 14 March 2004
- Turangi Jamboree, 19 to 21 March 2004
- Woodcut Seminar, Totara Springs, Matamata, 27 March 2004
- Royal Easter Show entries close 28 March 2004
- Jim Manley full day demo at SAWG, 3 April 2004
- Royal Easter Show, 7 to 12 April 2004
- Harihari Learn to Turn Jamboree, 4 to 6 June 2004
- Franklin Arts Festival, 13 to 20 June 2004
- Treeworkx Open Day, 10 July 2004
- Participation 2004, 7 and 8 August 2004
- National Woodskills Festival 2004, Kawerau, 10 to 12 September 2004
- National Woodturning Exhibition, Putaruru, 16 to 20 October 2004
- Spinaround Waitaki, 29 to 31 October 2004
- Christmas Sale, Papakura, 13 to 24 December 2004

### Wanted/For Sale/Give Away

Bench saw. 10" tilt arbor. German manufacture. Good working order. \$350.00 Contact Mac 299 6286.

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**Newsletter contributions to:** 48 Manse Rd., Papakura.  
Or dveitch@kiwilink.co.nz or fax 298-5775

**Our Website is [www.sawg.org.nz](http://www.sawg.org.nz)**

### Programme for the First Term 2004

We meet at our clubrooms, upper level of the Allan Brewster Recreation Centre, Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe, at 7:00 pm. For those who wish to make use of the machinery, do some shopping, or get a little extra advice, the doors open at 5:00.

This term sees the continuation of a Table Prize for each term – so keep your good work and lessons learned flowing to the show-and-tell table each meeting night.

3 March **Hands-on embellishing a bowl.** This is our term project so take the opportunity to work on your entry. The tools will be available and there will be experts available to advise you on their use.

6 March **Learners Day.** Tutors on hand at the clubrooms 0800 to 1400 to answer your questions and help with your problems.

10 March **Organoil stains and polishes.** Ernie Williams from Australia will demonstrate the Organoil product range.

13 March Working Bee and **Family Day.** Bring your family and friends to see our new clubrooms. This is the second Saturday so a working bee will still be needed.

17 March **Wood gathering,** cutting and storage is demonstrated and discussed by Ian Fish.

24 March **Bottle stoppers** as made and decorated by Terry Scott. Followed by a hands-on session of stopper making.

31 March Subject to be announced for a demonstration by Mac Gray

This is also photo night. Bring along your best show-and-tell bit for entry into the Treeworkx competition.

3 April **JR at SAWG.** A full day demonstration by Jim Manley. Full details are in this newsletter. Sorry, no first Saturday Learners Day.

7 April **Carving.** A unique demonstration of this craft by Jane Allnatt.

This is also the show and tell night for the Term Project "Embellished Bowls" that you have made.

16 April Working bee.

17 April **Open day for the public** to see our new rooms and meet members at work.

Term two for 2004 starts 28 April.

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## Club Night 4 February 2004. Embellishments

Teresa Hopkins had the honour to be the first demonstrator to perform in our new clubrooms. She gave an able display of the Sorby Texturing Tool. This works best on harder woods and those with a reasonably consistent hardness throughout the area to be embellished. She showed us how the textures achieved change with the angle setting of the tool and the lathe speed. There is also a spiralling set for more effects.



Next she added liming wax while noting the shoe polish and other coloured additives that fill the pattern made by the texturing tool are also good.

Dick Veitch then showed some examples of sandblasting. Firstly around the rim of a small bowl where the differing hardnesses within the grain of the wood resulted in the sandblasting removing only the soft bits. On another piece he had masked the wood to leave a flame-like effect of sandblasted wood. In both cases the blasted area was then waxed to further enhance the look.



Terry Scott then took to some wood with his favourite toy – the Dremel. He used it freehand and in a fixture to show just some of the effects that can be achieved. He went on to show that other things such as a letter punch, calligraphy machine, and other tools will also make patterns on wood. These patterns can be left as a tactile embellishment or filled with wax or painted over with a variety of colours and special paints.

Terry stressed the need to “Picture Frame” the embellishment. This is achieved by making a bead, a groove or a line on either side of the embellishment, or by cutting the wood on either side of the embellishment away to leave it standing proud.

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## Club Night 11 February 2004. Timber ID

Dave Harmes brought along the 100 or more named blocks of wood that will become our “Wood on the Wall” display of different timbers. Brian Patterson and Dick Veitch gathered together 40 bowls of differing woods, covered up the identifying names, and put them on the table to test members knowledge.

People were allowed to look at the named samples and then go back to the bowl table to check their bowl wood identification. So there was a lot of travel around the room.

The final examination followed modern practices of self-evaluation, shoulder-surfing and honesty as the known names of the bowl timbers were read out and members checked their sheets in a bid to win the stack of turning wood on the table. Rex Haslip took that away and is now considering purchase of a bigger lathe.



## Teknatool Open Day

You could have eaten sausages at Carba-tec, or Giles Tool Shed, or Southern Woodworkers, or many more Teknatool agencies and still been offered the same open day specials. This was Teknatool spreading their largesse to all those who could not get (or want to go) to the west of Auckland.

Me, I went to the west. There were sausages to spare, and I succumbed to more than one for lunch! There were no ‘seconds’ (not sausages, Teknatool goodies) for sale. There were demonstrations as good as ever, and a smaller crowd to see through.

There were also 10 and 20% discounts on a huge array or items, much to the joy of many. Makes it a good opportunity to plug a few little gaps in the equipment line, or to get that longed-for special item. Many people were doing just that.

Now how about making a goblet for the chance to win a Tormec grinder, kindly sponsored by W & R Jack Ltd., for your club? Many clubs members were present, as evidenced by their shirts and hats, but sadly few wanted to turn a goblet. Let competition commence. The Tormec went to West Auckland and a SuperNova chuck came to South Auckland.

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## Club Night 18 February 2004. Prunings

More than prunings, really any old scraps of wood.

Brian emphasised that horrible rough bits can be made to look good if turned on the lathe.

He showed us some of his previous work from what he described as junky old bits destined for the fire. A piece of carob turned into a nice natural edge vase. A worm-eaten piece probably required more work but had the potential to be really nice.



He had the other half of the carob and put that on the lathe. Turning it was a patient process as to start with the chisel was cutting air a lot of the time. He stopped the lathe frequently to see what was emerging and to check that wood was holding together. That bit did eventually fall apart but the message was clear that it is possible to make something from a very poor looking exterior. I did note though that there is still a need to finish with a shape that has desirable line and form.

Brian then mounted a small branch of plane and turned a nice little natural edge nut bowl – another scrap put to good use. While doing that he discussed the various mounting options for such a small piece.

His bottom line was “Think beyond the square and use those little bits of wood.”



## Notice of Annual General Meeting

Members are advised that the Annual General Meeting of South Auckland Woodturners Guild Inc. will be held at the Clubrooms of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild, Allan Brewster Recreation Centre, Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe, on Wednesday 19 May 2004 at 7:00 pm.

No Notices of Motion have been received.

## New Members

We welcome Bettina Bauer who describes herself as a beginner woodturner but also a stairmaker/joiner – there must be some woodworking skills there. Bettina was a member at North Shore before shifting south a little.

Also Peter Ross from out near Pukekohe. Also a beginner woodturner but working as a toolmaker he will surely have some skills to share.

Joe Meintjies from Pakuranga is a Fitter so we can again expect to see some hands-on skills from a person who describes his woodturning as beginner, hobbyist.

Not really new to many of us is Mike Hewett, now living somewhere over the Coromandel but moving towards somewhere south of Papakura. Mike has been an active North Shore member for many years and we have seen fine displays of his work in many locations.

We hope you will all enjoy your time with SAWG.

## For the Clubrooms

There are still a number of items which would help the Club and the Clubrooms to be better for all of us. If you have a spare one of the following (in good order please) bring it along please.

- A 1.5m or 2m stepladder
- 4 inch angle grinder with Arbortech fittings
- Dividers and compasses
- Jacobs chucks
- Woodturning chisels (HSS only)
- Anglepoise lights
- Workmate
- G clamps
- Quick action clamps
- Sash clamps
- Socket set
- Tenon saw or similar size
- Screwdriver set
- Wood chisel set
- Coping saw and blades
- Snub nose and long nose pliers
- No 4 wood plane



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## JR's Academy of Woodturning Coming to South Auckland

All woodturners are invited to share this day with Jim Manley at the SAWG Clubrooms in the Allan Brewster Recreation Centre, Papatoetoe

Saturday 3 April 2004

Door fee: NAW Members \$25.00 p p; non NAW Members \$30.00 p p. Tiered seating for 70 viewers. Close-up video views of the work in progress. Morning and afternoon tea provided, as is tea and coffee at lunchtime. Access from Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe.

From a comprehensive offering by this highly skilled and experienced woodturner we have selected a range of topics from which we believe most woodturners will gain knowledge.

**Session 1** 9:00 – 10:00

Woodturning tool sharpening – discussion and demonstration of sharpening techniques.

Skew basics – rules and need-to-knows.

Morning tea

**Session 2** 10:30 – 12:00

Bowl design – looking at three classic shapes and how to design them.

Lunch

**Session 3** 1:00 – 2:30

Plates and platters – design and execution techniques plus bottoms.

Afternoon tea

**Session 4** 3:00 – 4:30

Enhancing wood colour – ebonising, fuming, liming wax, boot polish, etc.

Sponsored by:



## Club Night 25 February 2004. Spinning Top

Regardless of how you measure, Dave Harmes must be our foremost spinning top maker. He also says it was just designed to use up the scraps from his workshop. How many big items were made to create the scraps for the 70 spinning tops sold at our last sale?

The process is well planned and the end result works well. Details of the production methods are in the Project Sheet on the next page.

I think it should be noted that attention to detail is part of the success of Dave's spinning tops. The shaft fitted perfectly into the wheel. The tip was fitted with a perfectly centred round-head nail. The holes for the string were carefully touched up with a small rasp.



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**Congratulations** to Rex Haslip for a Merit award at the Thames Society of Arts Summer Exhibition.



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## DAVE HARMES' SPINNING TOP

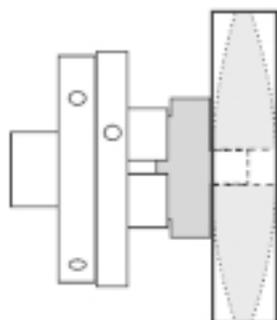
### Parts List:

Shaft & Toggle 20 x 20 x 100  
Handle 33 x 33 x 170  
Wheel 80 dia x 20 thick  
Nylon Cord 1.6mm x 300  
Small round-head nail

The wheel has a 12mm centre hole.

A jam chuck is the best way to mount the wheel for accurate results.

The handle is prepared by drilling 1 x 20mm hole and 1 x 12mm hole as shown in the drawing below.

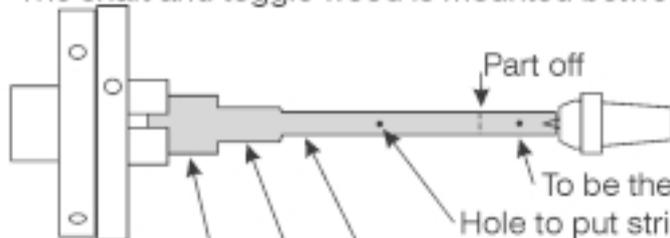


The wheel is firmly fitted onto the jam chuck by its centre hole.

One side is shaped and then the wheel is turned around and the other side is shaped.

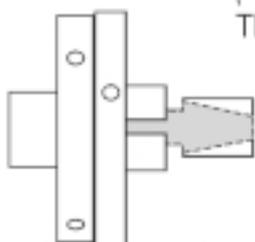
Lines, spirals, and other decorations can be added.

The shaft and toggle wood is mounted between chuck and tail.

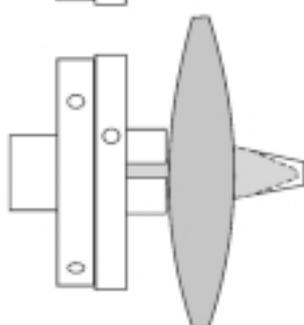


Part off  
To be the toggle on the string  
Hole to put string through the shaft  
Thinned a little smaller than the 12 mm hole in the handle  
12mm exactly and the length that is this thickness is the same as the thickness of the wheel

This end left square at this stage. To be the point of the shaft



Remount and start to shape the point, particularly the part that will be close to the wheel. Do not complete the point.



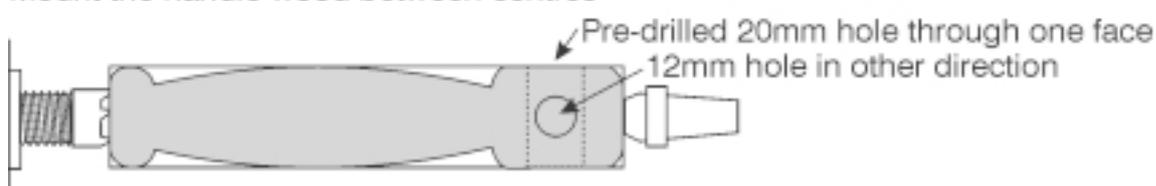
Glue the shaft into the wheel and remount.

Give the point of the shaft a final cut down to size.

Drill a small pilot hole into the exact centre of the end of the shaft.

Knock the round-head nail into this hole.

Mount the handle wood between centres



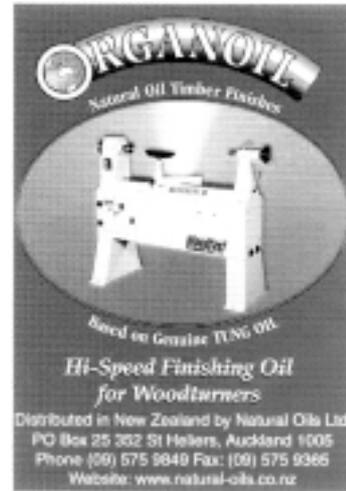
Turn to shape and sand. Dismount and sand ends

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**Oooooops!** Did you hear about the retired truckie who went out woodcutting one day? “This saw is pretty useless” he shouted over the roar of the chainsaw. A little while later all machines were stopped and he observed “I put the chain on back-to-front”.

**Hint.** For those using air tools which have that helpful label “oil daily”. Put in a few drops for every couple of hours work. At the end of the day put in five drops and give it a brief spin. This helps chase out condensation and the tool is ready for the next use or can safely be left with reduced fears of internal rusting.

**If quitters never win** and winners never cheat, who’s the idiot that said, quit while you’re ahead.



If undelivered, please return to:  
The Editor, 48 Manse Road,  
Papakura, 1703.

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## IAN R. F. FISH

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