

TURNING TALK

Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild

Number 130 : December 2004

Coming Events

- Christmas Sale, Papakura, 6 to 24 December 2004
Thames Society of Arts Summer Exhibition, 17 February to 6 March 2005
Neil Scobie full day demo at SAWG, 26 February 2005
Entries close for Royal Easter Show, 18 February 2005
Collaborationz. At Whangarei, 4 to 12 March 2005
John Lister full day demo at SAWG, 19 March 2005
Royal Easter Show, 24 to 29 March 2005
Timber and Working With Wood Show, Auckland, 8 to 10 April 2005
Turangi Jamboree, 23 and 24 April 2005
Woodcut Open Day, 2 July 2005
National Woodskills Festival, Kawerau, 9 to 11 September 2005
NAW Woodskills Symposium hosted by Christchurch Woodturners at Kaiapoi, 16 to 18 September 2005
Tauranga Woodcrafter's Club Baycourt Festival, 6 to 9 October 2005

Woodturner Training - see page four

Royal Easter Show - see page five

Thanks Doug

Two new lathes have appeared in the clubrooms thanks to the generosity of Doug Tanner and Tanner Engineering.

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Our Website is www.sawg.org.nz

Neil Scobie

Full Day Demo 26 February 2005. At SAWG Clubrooms. Times and cost in February newsletter.

Neil comes from Lower Bucca in Australia. After 20 years of working as an Industrial Arts Teacher at the highschool level he changed to full time woodworking. Combining his teaching skills with woodworking and an obvious artistic flair clearly works well.

Michael Hosaluk of Canada sums up Neil and his work thus: I was taken by his creativity and enthusiasm to progress in his work. Since we met I have used examples of his work in my slide shows and recently included Neil's work in my recent book, *Scratching the Surface, Art and Content in Contemporary Wood*, as prime examples of some of the most creative work being done in the world today.

The plan for his day at SAWG is:

Project 1.

Turn a platter about 250mm diameter and show a number of different methods of decorating the rim including hand carving, power carving, stippling, texturing and colouring.

Project 2.

Turn and carve a wave rim bowl with legs attached, similar to the picture shown. Bowl will be turned then the rim will be shaped with power and hand carving tools. Separate legs will be turned, carved and added.

Project 3

Turn and decorate an off centre three sided bowl with legs attached.

Project 4 (If time permits)

Turning a three sided off set lidded box.

We can be assured of an interesting and informative day. Bring your lunch, tea and coffee provided.



Club Night 3 November 2004. Simple Bowls

This was a hands-on night to make simple bowls – our project for this term and bowls to give to Kidz First at Christmas.

I did count how many lathes were in operation but now forget – it seemed to be all go but there was room to spare.

The test now is how many small bowls there will be to fill with sweets and give to the kids.



Club Night 10 Nov 2005. Utah Slide Show

Reducing the 960 pictures of items on display in the instant gallery at the Utah Symposium to a showable 100 images was not easy. In the end I think it was an impressive display of woodturning.

Of course this gallery starts by being the best that people can produce and that puts it among the best woodturning shows in the world. The items are brought to the gallery by the demonstrators at the symposium and by people who are attending to learn about woodturning so the skill base is broad. One could go around and see work just like we see in New Zealand on our show and tell tables. But the prestige of this gallery means that most entrants really try to display something special – those were the pictures included in our slide show.



Club Night 17 Nov 2004. Saleable Standards

Mike Lewis boasts in the headline of his Creative Wood article that he has made his fortune at the craft markets. I await the second article to learn whether that is a fortune in dollars or a fortune-ate experience.

He now knows that the work must attract attention. The first impression is very important although the wow factor is not the same for everybody. Different people like different shapes, particularly when they are looking for an artistic form. Functionality will govern the shape but colour and grain should not – the shape always needs to be good.

The finish must be the best you can achieve – then try a little harder. Yes, we have seen people buy poorly finished pieces but if you are the sole vendor and want to keep your clientele the finish and quality of your work must be good for years to come.

If time consuming enhancements have been added then the work must sell for more. Colourful enhancements do attract attention but this more expensive work needs to be interspersed with cheaper items.

Label you work clearly with your name, date and wood type in permanent ink or fine pyrography. There is a preference for native woods and sticky labels with your phone number can improve future sales.

Be proud of what you have achieved and, above all else, do not underprice your work or yourself.



Club Night 24 Nov 04. Thin Spindle Turning

Terry Scott shared with us his observations of thin spindle turning at Utah and then his subsequent learning on locally available timber and locally available equipment.

Over and above the usual sharp chisel, rub the bevel, and similar tried and true woodturning requirements there are obviously two major influences in good thin spindle turning: Keeping the wood steady; and wood with a suitable grain.

The steady he used is shown in the photo – three identical sections but with the centre piece up the other way so that the turning wood is gripped without any twisting pressure.

There are surely many woods that will be suitable. It is better to work with the pith off-centre but this may result in subsequent warping.

The process is to rough the wood down between centres. Remount between a chuck and the tailstock. Re-cut an area down from the planned goblet cup for the steady to hold the work while the cup and first section of the stem is turned – this distance will depend on the size of your steady. Mount the steady.

Turn the cup inside. Use a plug on the tailstock to fit inside the cup and bring up the tailstock to gently hold the cup. Turn the outside of the cup and then the first portion of the stem.

Shift the steady onto this first portion of the stem. Turn the rest of the stem section by section and move the steady along after completion of each section.

Finish the base and part off.



Holiday Activities

The clubrooms will be open every Monday afternoon 12:30 to 3:30 apart from the public holidays of 27 December and 3 January. Monday 31 is Auckland Anniversary so the clubrooms will not be open that day but will be open on 1 February.

The clubrooms will be open every Wednesday evening 5:00 onwards just as if there was a meeting – apart from Christmas week.

The first Upskills Day for 2005 is Saturday 5 February.

Working bee will still be the second weekend of January – you can't stop the cleaning and care for the premises because it is summer holidays!

Programme for the First Term 2005

We meet at our clubrooms in the Papatoetoe Stadium Community 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 pm.

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.

Wed 2 Feb **Project for the Term.** A Candlestick demonstrated by Bruce Hannah.

Sat 5 Feb **Upskills day.** Everyone has a skill that needs improvement.

Wed 9 Feb **Irene Gafert** brings us colour and decorations from Denmark.

Sat 12 Feb **Working bee.** Do your bit to keep the clubrooms up to scratch.

Further Term One activities in the February Newsletter.

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WOODTURNER TRAINING PLAN 2005

South Auckland Woodturners Guild will hold six two day hands-on training sessions at its clubrooms in 2005. Eleven lathes are available. The skill levels of participants will vary and the courses through the year will vary to match this need. Prospective participants must read and carefully consider their own skill levels in relation to the courses outlined below.

This entire plan is now visible to all prospective participants so that they may see their prospective place correctly. This training will be open to all comers on a first-in-first-served basis. Applications should be made to The Secretary, Mike Clausen, 4/4 William Ave., Greenlane, Auckland, and will be accepted only when full payment is made. To help us ensure that you have chosen an appropriate training level, please include with your application a resume of your woodturning work and the name of at least one referee.

Maximum numbers in each course is 11 participants. Costs per person are: Beginner \$80; Intermediate \$95; Experienced \$110. If six applications with full payment are not received by two weeks before the course date then the course is cancelled and all monies refunded. There is no refund for applicants who cancel within two weeks of the course date unless a replacement participant can be found.

This programme is planned by Dick Veitch. There will be one SAWG committee member to act as an organiser and gopher for each tutor before and during each training course.

Course Outlines

Further detailed instructions about each course will be provided with acceptance of each application to attend.

Beginner:

Introduced to the tools of the craft. Lectured on workshop safety. Instructed in tool sharpening, timber selection, and mounting wood on the lathe. Make a spindle turned item. Make a faceplate/chuck mounted item (bowl).

Tutors: Terry Meekan 26 – 27 February
George Flavell 27 – 28 August

All the tools that a beginner needs will be provided but participants are encouraged to bring and use their own tools.

Wood will be provided for this course.

Intermediate:

Participants should already know how to sharpen tools, mount wood on the lathe, and turn it into something.

Tutors: Jim Manley 30 April – 1 May
Shane Hewitt 24 – 25 September

In this course tool sharpening and wood mounting skills will be refreshed. The tutors will advance participant skills to turning wood to pre-determined shapes chosen by the tutor or participant. The participant will then be considered to be in control of both the wood and the chisel.

Chisels are available at the clubrooms and wood is available for participants to purchase. We recommend that participants bring their own chisels and a supply of wood that will give them a variety of turning options. This wood must be good clean blanks suitable for easy chisel work.

Experienced:

Participants in this course should have reached a level where they are in control of the chisel and the wood, and are able to make items to a pre-conceived design.

Tutors: Rolly Munro 25 – 26 June
Graeme Priddle 26 – 27 November

In this course the tutors will discuss and enhance all aspects of participants' work and work practices. There will be emphasis on shape, form, finish, colour, texture, and other embellishments.

Participants must bring their own tools, a variety of wood, some incomplete turned items for finishing, and completed items for critique.



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Woodturning competition and shop entries for the Royal Easter Show are now being handled by staff at the Show Office. People who participated last year should automatically receive entry forms. If you want to join in this huge show and have your work seen by thousands, send in the form below. We will still be seeking demonstrators and helpers for the show - more advice later.

**2005 ROYAL EASTER SHOW
ART AWARDS
24 - 29 MARCH 2005**

**AUCKLAND SHOWGROUNDS
217 GREENLANE ROAD, EPSOM**

The Royal Easter Show Arts Committee have successfully organised an annual Art Awards Exhibition at the Royal Easter Show for many years and it is growing all the time. The competition sections include Painting, Photography and Ceramics with the Woodturning section being opened nationally for the first time this year. The 2004 show drew a total of 1111 entries in the Painting, Photography and Ceramics and 341 entries in Woodturning.

The Art Hall also provides showcase areas. This year we intend to have Pottery and Glassware. These will complement the Spinning & Weaving, Chinese Fan Painting and the other Static displays. All the display work is able to be sold through the Art Hall Shop. Demonstrations times are available as well.

The Art Award prizegiving on the evening of 23rd March is also the official opening of the Royal Easter Show, to which we invite over 2000 people. All exhibitors receive a complimentary invite. This evening provides the opportunity for invited guests to purchase Art or display items and sample Award Winning Wines from the Royal Easter Show Wine Awards. The Art Hall has a shop which also will display and sell goods that are not in competitions and this shop operates throughout the six days of the Royal Easter Show.

If you would like to receive more information or be included on our Mailing List for the Art Awards Schedule please fill out this form below and return to Robin Hill, Royal Easter Show, P O Box 26014, Epsom, Auckland.



Royal Easter Show Art Awards 24 - 29 March 2005

Name _____ Area of Interest _____

Address _____

_____ Email _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Mobile _____

Return to Robin Hill, Royal Easter Show, P O Box 26014, Epsom, Auckland.

Thanks to all who have contributed lumps of macrocarpa for woodturner training. A big thanks to those who turned out to help mill the tree at Karaka. With the wood we have, and the wood we still plan to harvest, the training programme appears to be well supplied – but don't waste any that you have as we have the storage space and it can be used for raffles too.

Oooooops! Did you see the macrocarpa where the sawyer found the wire three times (hoping for third time lucky to get some good wood?).




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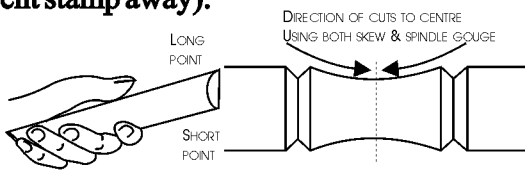
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A BEGINNERS GUIDE TO WOODTURNING

Original artwork and text by George Flavell

Now in its fourth edition with 52 pages of clear line drawings and text specifically aimed at the learner turner. Safety, wood gathering, tools, spindle work, bowls, hollow forms, and more.

Just \$20.00 sent to the editor of this newsletter (more if you live further than a 90 cent stamp away).



LONG POINT
SHORT POINT
DIRECTION OF CUTS TO CENTRE USING BOTH SKEW & SPINDLE GOUGE

South Auckland Woodturners Guild annual sale of work. Accent Point, Papakura, 6 to 24 December. 1800 items from 32 woodturners.



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