

TURNING TALK

Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild

TURNING TOMORROW'S TREASURES

Number 149 : October 2006

Coming Events

Activities Beyond our Clubrooms

3 October. Vaughn Richmond at Franklin. 4:00pm start

5 to 8 October. Waikato Guild of Woodworkers at the Homeshow, Claudelands.

3 to 5 November. Spin Around Waitaki.

4 and 5 November. Tauranga Woodcrafter's Club Festival at Baycourt, Durham Street, Tauranga.

26 November to 3 December. Southland Woodworkers Guild Annual Exhibition.

28 February 2007. Entries close for the Royal Easter Show.

31 March 2007. Deliver entries for the Royal Easter Show.

5 to 9 April 2007. The Royal Easter Show is open to the public.

This list for looks brief but Rex Haslip, webmaster for the NAW, has added considerably to the nation-wide list of events on the Whats On page of the NAW website. Have a look at <http://www.naw.org.nz/whatson.htm>

How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you are on.

The Balusters

Fifty-two balusters now adorn the ends of our tiered seating area. Thanks to all who took up the challenge. Thanks also to those who made them fit in so well – new rails, six and two half ball finials, routed edges and coats of paint. A fine new look to the clubrooms.

Remember, this was our term one project demonstrated by Dave Anderson from West Auckland. I hope he will be back some day to see the results.

As always, our term projects are judged to select the best work. This time we had the good fortune of a visit from Mark von Dadelszen, NAW President. He praised the whole lot and got a few hopes up by selecting a second and third. Top of the lot he selected one by our president, Farouk Khan.



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Our Website is www.sawg.org.nz

National Woodskills Festival, Kawerau

Six club members sent 24 entries to the National Woodskills Festival at Kawerau. This year they had 13 categories of which 6 were suitable for woodturners.

Congratulations to Luke Crowsen for a first in College Age Woodturning; Terry Scott for second and highly commended in Traditional Woodturning and highly commended in Artistic Woodturning; Michael Bernard for third in Traditional Woodturning and highly commended in the Tasman Mill Pinus Radiata; and Dick Veitch for highly commended in Traditional Woodturning.

For the full array of pictures have a look at the gallery on the NAW website <www.naw.org.nz>



Michael Bernard third in Traditional Woodturning



Michael Bernard highly commended in the Tasman Mill Pinus Radiata Norske Skog Tasman



Luke Crowsen first in College Age Woodturning



Terry Scott second in Traditional Woodturning



Dick Veitch highly commended in Traditional Woodturning



Terry Scott highly commended in Artistic Woodturning



Terry Scott highly commended in Traditional Woodturning

In Our Clubrooms

Fourth Term 2006

All the activities listed here are in our clubrooms in the Papatoetoe Stadium Community Centre, Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe.

For our regular Wednesday evenings the official meeting starts 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.

We have a Table Prize for each term. This is your work on display – lessons learned (half-finished, flawed, or failed) to the best you can do flowing to the show-and-tell table each meeting night.

Wednesday 4 October Vaughn Richmond demonstration. 10:30 to 12:30 (subject to be arranged) and 1:30 to 3:30 (subject to be arranged). Door fee \$25.00. Tea and coffee provided, bring your lunch.

Wednesday 4 October Vaughn Richmond demonstration. 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Door fee \$20.00

Sat 7 October Upskills Day. Doors open 8:30am. Every turner can improve their skills, or help others to improve. Or just come along, turn some wood, enjoy the day. Special topic for this day is “Platters”.

Wed 11 October Term Project. We will again be working towards a bundle of gifts for Kidz First and other needy causes at Middlemore. Small bowls will be welcome in abundance. Lets add a few toys to that. Mac Duane will demonstrate the ball and cup toy and Bryden Thorpe some jigs for wheel making.

Sat 14 October Working Bee. Doors open 8:30am. There are always cleaning tasks and repairs to be done. Your chance to put a bit back into the club.

Wed 18 October Sandpaper. Stephen Dickens will show us some new very flexible sandpaper.

Sat 21 October Ornamental Turners. Start time 1:00pm. Learn and share in this precision art.

Wed 25 October Small Items for the Craft Market. Tom Pearson will share a little of his experience and show us the making of one or two small items.

Sat 28 October Tutor Training. This popular half-day course for tutors and demonstrators will be repeated.

Wed 1 November Deep Hollowing. Tools and methods to cur wood further away from the toolrest will be shown by Dick Veitch.

Sat 4 November Upskills Day. Doors open 8:30am. Every turner can improve their skills, or help others to improve. Or just come along, turn some wood, enjoy the day. Special topic for this day is “Deep Hollowing”.

Wed 8 November Bowl Design. A discussion and demonstration to help make your bowls better. Led by Michael Bernard and Gordon Pembridge.

Sat 11 November Working Bee. Doors open 8:30am. There are always cleaning tasks and repairs to be done. Your chance to put a bit back into the club.

Wed 15 November Clinic and Hands-on to make those Term Project toys and small bowls. Bring your problem pieces, tools for sharpening, and your project making gear.

Sat 18 November Ornamental Turners. Start time 1:00pm. Learn and share in this precision art.

Wed 22 November Cutting, storing, and drying wood. An assemblage of the options by Dick Veitch.

Wed 29 November Bowl spigots – decoration and salvage. John Whitmore will show us a few tricks.

Wed 6 December Natural Edge Bowl. An excellent way to utilise fresh-cut wood shown to us by Mac Duane.

Sat 9 December Working Bee. Doors open 8:30am. There are always cleaning tasks and repairs to be done. Your chance to put a bit back into the club.

Wed 13 December Last Night of the Year when we wrap the gifts to give away at Kidz First and we give out some awards to members. This is also the last night of the term when your Term Project toys will all be on display and the best one selected. Also the Table Prize for Term Four will be awarded. And we will have a “Name the Woods” competition.

Term One 2007 starts 7 February 2007.

Club Night 6 Sept 2006. Linbide Tools

By all accounts Trevor Lindsay gave an excellent demonstration of the Linbide range of products. But nobody bothered to write anything for this newsletter.

Mac Duane has offered to organise a visit to the Linbide factory.

Training Courses

Sadly, we had to cancel our weekend with John Mackinven. It promised to be an interesting weekend but there were too few takers.

The next training is for demonstrators on the morning of 28 October. This is for anyone who wants to stand behind a lathe while other watch and listen, anywhere, any time.



Shavings Only Please

Shavings only, please, in the big bins that move around between the lathes. The contents of these bins go to people who don't appreciate your rotten apple cores, half eaten sandwiches, used sandpaper, and scraps of wood. Wood scraps go in the box by the bandsaw, then someone can put them to good use. Apple cores and rottable bits go in the bin by the tea trolley. All other nice dry rubbish goes in the tall wheelie bin.



Club Night 20 September 2006. Chainsaws

Wayne Jones was far more than just the "Training Co-ordinator" for Stihl – he quite clearly lives and loves chainsaws. Throughout his detailed and interesting talk he stood and stroked his racing "Hotsaw". So, I must write about that before tackling the meat of his talk.

The hotsaw stood out to start with because it had a muffler almost the size of the one on my first car. This went from the normal exhaust port over the top right of the saw body and extended well behind the saw. Next notable feature was that the carburettor cover was removed and the carburettor was almost a straight pipe to maximise air intake. Move to the other side and there was massive change – no cover and a large sprocket wheel to make the chain move faster. And the chain – it looked more like a row of dog canine teeth as the unwanted bits of every tooth had been filed away to reduce drag.

Waynes talk addressed more than a dozen important aspects of chainsaw maintenance and use extending from choosing the right saw and right chain to start with through to long-term storage of the saw. Unlike much of the published material we see, his talk was tailored to New Zealand conditions and work practices.

We probably all sharpen our chains as needed but I bet we don't dress the blade frequently enough and I bet we don't replace the chain sprocket with each third new chain! Further than that I bet my chainsaw blade is well worn inside its tracks. Next time I feel the need to replace one bit I will be looking carefully at the rest.

On the personal safety front I was interested to learn that chainsaws produce all the big three health challenges – noise, gases, and vibration. Add to that their serious ability to bite and they are a potentially deadly machine. To combat noise you should use grade 4 or 5 ear muffs. There is often not much that can be done about gases – I have wished I could turn a kauri log around occasionally to get the wind direction right. Vibration should be diminished by the shock absorbers within your saw – providing they are in good condition.

The ability of the saw to bite is largely overcome by safe use of the saw. However, chaps, steel caps, and hard hats are all appropriate gear.

Interestingly, eye protection meets with mixed opposition as safety glasses can fog and mesh screens can mist over. Regardless of that, eye protection is recommended.

Waynes experience as a saw user and training officer made this an excellent evening.

Club Night 13 Sept 06. 14 ways to hold wood

Ian Fish reminded us that the real success in easily holding wood on the lathe comes with knowledge of wood grain and using sharp tools. By the end of his talk I was sure there are more than 14 ways to hold wood on a lathe.

The simplest mount is between centres with a gripping spike at the drive end and a sharp spike at the other. But there are many mechanical improvements with ball-bearing mounts at the tailstock and a huge range of drive spurs. This style of mount depends on pressure between the tailstock and headstock.

Similar end-to-end pressure can be used to hold items against a flat or curved faceplate (usually rubber covered) but this is not recommended as a method for more than a minimal amount of turning, such as forming a spigot.

Holding wood without using the tailstock for support can be a lot more challenging, but there are also many ways to do it.

The simplest, for very small turnings, is simply to jam the wood into the morse taper of the headstock. A cup chuck is a larger diameter morse taper. For a cup chuck the wood is turned to the cup size between centres first.

Larger work can be screwed to a faceplate. Ian strongly recommended that you do not use regular woodscrews for this attachment. His preference is hex headed tech screws – the sort normally used for roof cladding and the like. This advice includes faceplate rings – basically a faceplate that is held by a chuck instead of being screwed directly to the spindle.

A further development of the faceplate was a single screw in the centre. A pilot hole is drilled in the wood and it is wound onto the screw until it comes up firmly against the faceplate – a very secure mount. This method is taken further with the woodworm screw held in the centre of a chuck so that the wood is wound in against the faces of the jaws.

A pin chuck also uses a pilot hole. This is the exact size for the pin chuck to fit into and then the twisting action of the rotating lathe holds the wood against the long bearing of the pin chuck.

A development of the cup chuck was to make a similar chuck with wood and then saw the gripping surfaces into segments and squeeze them with a jubilee clip to hold the wood. This then developed to the present day woodturning chuck which grips a spigot or expands into a dovetail. An engineers chuck has a similar operating mode but has narrow jaws which dig unevenly into wood.

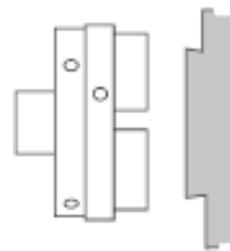
The jaws for a woodturning chuck are many and varied – tiny jaws to hold 10mm pieces; long jaws to hold vases; wide jaws to hold platters; extended jaws to hold the outside of large bowls. Then you can screw on lumps of wood or plastic and make shaped jaws. A similar action to the extended, or Cole, jaws is achieved by a Longworth chuck.

Ian explained in some detail his way to make a spigot to be held securely by a chuck. This is a subject on its own as shown in the next column.

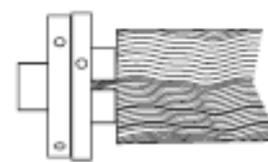
Then there are the ways to hold a piece to another piece of wood which is then attached to a faceplate of chuck. This may be a “waste block” in the form of a spigot which is later turned off, or a large board which the turned wood is glued, bolted, or clamped to. This clamping action may be done using rings of wood or individual fingers of wood.

A vacuum chuck uses the vacuum from a pump or vacuum cleaner to create external pressure which holds the work to a flat or curved rubber coated surface.

Strength of the Spigot and Dovetail



The intention is to hold a large lump of wood by a small part of one side or end.



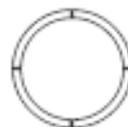
If the wood is held for end-grain turning there is huge strength within the wood when it is gripped by the chuck.



When wood is mounted cross-grain, as for a bowl, it is easy for all or part of the foot to split off. It is important for the chuck to meet the wood on a clean surface at point X. It is important to have a good length (Y) to the spigot.



If the spigot length is short and the grain angle is acute, it is very easy for part of the spigot to split off. Angled grain outside a shallow dovetail may also allow the wood to split off.



Chuck jaws are made as a circle and thus grip a round piece of wood, in either spigot or dovetail mode, perfectly only when returned to being a circle.



When the jaws are expanded they grip a spigot at 8 points and a dovetail at just 4 points.

The Wood on the Wall

Some years ago the Guild decided it would be useful to have an array of wood samples on display for members to see and learn from. To this end Dave Harnes has been collecting woods and dressing them to small (standard size) blocks. We acquired some carpet of the appropriate type to stick velcro to and Peter Chapman made some frames. Now it is all up on the clubroom walls.

You will note that some have only a common name. That is what we were told the name is and we can now find no reference to give us an official scientific name. We want more wood types, but be sure about the name please. Get a lump of the wood, from which a piece 100 x 75 x 25 can be dressed and with the name clearly written on it, to Dave Harnes or Dick Veitch.

The list below is the current selection of timbers.

Exotic species:

Common Name	Scientific Name		
Alese		Hemlock	<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>
Alexandrian laurel	<i>Calophyllum inophyllum</i>	Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
American Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Holm Oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>
American hard maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i> or <i>A. nigrum</i>	Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>
American maple		Huon Pine	<i>Lagorostrobus franklinii</i>
American oak		Indian Rosewood	<i>Dalbergia latifolia</i>
American white oak		Irish Strawberry	<i>Arbutus unedo</i>
Apricot	<i>Prunus amygdalus</i>	Iroco	
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ironbark	<i>Eucalyptus</i> (7 possibilities)
Avocado	<i>Persea americana</i>	Jacaranda	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>
Beech (European)	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Japanese oak	<i>Quercus acutissima</i>
Black Russian olive	<i>Eleagnus angustifolia</i>	Jarraah	<i>Eucalyptus marginata</i>
Black Walnut (American walnut)	<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Jelutong	<i>Dyera costulata</i>
Blackwood	<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Judas Tree	<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>
Blue Gum	<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i>	Kadamu (Fijian cedar)	
Bondet	<i>Hagenia abyssinica</i>	Kwila	<i>Intsia bujuga</i>
Bouldi or bauldi		Lemon	<i>Citrus limon</i>
Box Brush, common or English	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Lignum vitae	<i>Guaiacum officinale</i>
Bubinga (African rosewood)	<i>Guibourtia demeusi</i>	Lilac	<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>
Camellia	<i>Camellia gordonia</i>	Loquat	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>
Camellia	<i>Camellia japonica</i>	Macrocarpa	<i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i>
Camphor	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Magnolia	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>
Carob (Mexican lotus)	<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Maple (European)	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Cedar		Meranti	<i>Shorea robusta</i>
Cedar of Goa	<i>Cupressus lusitanica</i>	Moreton Bay Fig	<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>
Cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>	Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Chestnut	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Olive	<i>Olea europaea</i>
Chilean False-alerce Larch	<i>Pilgerodendron uviferum</i>	Osage-orange	<i>Maclura pomifera</i>
Copper Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> 'Cuprea'	Pacific matai	<i>Podocarpus spicata</i> or <i>P. neriifolia</i>
Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster glaucophyllus</i>	Paduka	
Custard apple	<i>Casimora edulis</i>	Palm	
Cypress Deodar	<i>Cedrus doedara</i>	Peach	<i>Prunus persica</i>
Cypress	<i>Cupressus benthami</i>	Pencil cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>
Elm	<i>Ulmus procera</i>	Pepper	<i>Schinus molle</i>
Feijoa	<i>Acca sellowiana</i>	Pine	<i>Pinus radiata</i>
Fijian kauri	<i>Agathis vitiensis</i>	Plane or London plane	<i>Platanus hybrida</i>
Ginkgo	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Plum	<i>Prunus</i>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Poplar, Aspen	<i>Populus tremula</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Privet	<i>Ligustrum</i>
		Purpleheart	<i>Peltogyne porphyrocardia</i>
		Quince	<i>Cydonia oblonga</i>
		Red Gum	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>
		Red Mahogany	<i>Eucalyptus resinifera</i>
		Redwood	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>
		Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron</i>
		Salusalu or Dakua salusalu	<i>Decussocarpus vitiensis</i>
		Sapele	<i>Entandrophragma cylindricum</i>
		She-oak	<i>Casuarina</i>
		Silky Oak	<i>Cardwellia sublimus</i>
		Silver Birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>
		Silver Poplar	<i>Populus</i>
		Spanish Eucalyptus	
		Sweet Pea	
		Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
		Tasmanian Ash	
		Tasmanian Oak	<i>Eucalyptus delegatensis</i> or <i>E. obliqua</i> or <i>E. regnans</i>
		Teak	<i>Tectonia grandis</i>
		Tree of Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>

Tulip	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>
Walnut	<i>Juglans regia</i>
Wattle	
Wenge	<i>Millettia laurentii</i>
Western Red Cedar	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>
White Ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>
White Cedar	<i>Melia azederach</i>
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Willow	<i>Salix</i>
Yaka	

Native species:

Common Name	Scientific Name
Black Maire	<i>Gymnelaea cunninghamii</i>
Broadleaf	<i>Griselinia lucida</i>
Kahikatea	<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydiodes</i>
Kamaha	<i>Weinmannia racemosa</i>
Kanuka	<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>
Karaka	<i>Corynocarpus laevigatus</i>
Kauri	<i>Agathis australis</i>
Swamp kauri	<i>Agathis australis</i>
Kohekohe	<i>Dysoxylum spectabile</i>
Kowhai	<i>Sophora tetraptera</i>
Lacebark	<i>Hoheria populnea</i> or <i>H. sexstylosa</i>
Mangeao	<i>Litsea calicaris</i>
Mangrove	<i>Avicennia resinifera</i>
Matai	<i>Prumnopitys taxifolia</i>
Miro	<i>Podocarpus ferrugineus</i>
Ngaio	<i>Myoporum laetum</i>
Pohutukawa	<i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>
Pukatea	<i>Laurelia novae-zelandiae</i>
Puriri	<i>Vitex lucens</i>
Red Beech	<i>Nothofagus fusca</i>
Rewarewa	<i>Knightia excelsa</i>
Rimu	<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>
Silver Beech	<i>Nothofagus menziesii</i>
Silver Pine	<i>Lagarostrobos colensoi</i>
Yellow silver pine	<i>Lagarostrobos colensoi</i>
Tanekaha or Celery Pine	<i>Phyllocladus trichomanoides</i>
Taraire	<i>Beilshmiedia tarairi</i>
Burl taraire	<i>Beilshmiedia tarairi</i>
Tawa	<i>Beilshmiedia tawa</i>
Totara	<i>Podocarpus totara</i>
Swamp totara	<i>Podocarpus totara</i>
Burl totara	<i>Podocarpus totara</i>
Whau	<i>Entelea arborescens</i>
White maire	<i>Gymnelaea lanceolata</i>



Best Clock

The term project for the term just gone was a clock. Some people made many and varied editions. It was wonderful to see the good number on display. Les awarded the prize for best clock to Jim Downs.



Table Prize Term Three

Congratulations to Luke Crowsen for winning the Table Prize for term three.

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DUTA 2006

That neat little acronym means Down Under Turn Around – an annual event hosted by the Phillip Island Woodturners and this was their tenth year.

The Christian Youth Camp at Phillip Island has accommodation for people, a huge hall for lathes, and a fine kitchen – what more does a woodturner need? This, their tenth year, 58 lathes and 140 people filled all spaces. Included in that were nine kiwis and the locals brought a few lathes for us to use. So we turned, and turned, and turned. By leaving the shavings on the floor our baggage was not too heavy – after Terry coerced all others to carry some of his wood and tools.

True, I did have quite a few kilos and look forward to completing some very pretty Tasmanian Oak as the year progresses.



Participation 2006

We flung open the doors, put in a few power leads, shifted the tea trolley, and invited people to come for the weekend. Then we found we could start bringing extra lathes in early on Friday, so we did that.

By noon Friday there were 20 people turning wood. When the pizzas were ordered for dinner 35 people had checked in and inspected their goodie bags. As the doors were closing about 9pm a voice came "Wow, that was just setup day."

Sure was. Next day more lathes and more people. This weekend is all about sharing. Watching others. Being watched. Learning. Teaching. Sharing ideas, tools, techniques. I will let the pictures tell the story – if I can fit enough in.



Bowls for Kidz First. 55 people but only 37 bowls.



Some intriguing bits in the instant gallery.

Chairs by Jasper

Jasper Murphy, who makes those wonderful chairs we saw at the Easter Show last year, is having a display of his work titled "Making Chairs from Trees" at Compendium Gallery, 5 Lorne Stret, Auckland, from 2 to 21 October. That will be well worth a look.



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