

# TURNING TALK

Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild

TURNING TOMORROW'S TREASURES

Number 150 : November 2006

## Coming Events

Activities Beyond our Clubrooms

**3 to 5 November. Spin Around** Waitaki.

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

**12 November. Waitaki Woodturners Guild Woodturning Sale**

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

**2 December. Waitaki Woodturners Guild Open Day**

**28 and 29 January 2007. Tauranga Woodcrafter's Club Exhibition** and sale of work at The Elms.

**15 February to 4 March 2007. Thames Society of Arts Summer Exhibition.** Entry forms to be in by 3 February 2007

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

**March 3 & 4 2007 Turangi Jamboree** run by the Lake Taupo Woodworkers Guild.

**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 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>

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

## Thank You for Participation 2006

All the people who did anything to make Participation 2006 the enjoyable weekend it was deserve a great big Thank You.

Top of my list is Terry Scott who pushed, hassled, harangued, and generally made it all happen. It was his contact with many of the retailers listed below that got us some very useful raffle prizes.

Many, many, club members did their bit but most notable was Les Sivewright. Counting the money, dishing out the registrations, filling the tea urns, watching the door.

The retailers who contributed just can't be listed in any priority order. They were all wonderful.

Ross and Heather Vivian brought timber and contributed the pen blanks in each goodie bag.

Mac Duane supplied bowl blocks for each participant to contribute to the Kidz First collection (but only 37 bowls came from 50 participants).

Treeworkx – Ron Wallace-Wells – for being there with useful goods for sale and collecting dust on the displayed product – and for contributing raffle prizes.

GP Sawdoctors for their contribution to operational equipment.

McEntee Hire for the loan of equipment and some raffle prizes.

Motor Technologies for a significant dinner contribution.

Ian Fish for being there with useful goods for sale and also collecting dust on the displayed product – and for contributing raffle prizes.

Tool & Industrial Supplies Ltd., – Kris Keeman – for a great number of raffle prizes (See his details elsewhere in this newsletter.

Mitre 10, Takanini, for raffle prize contributions.

Bob Yandell for the cups we drank from and plates.

Woodcut Tools for their contribution to the raffle prize collection.

Jim Downs for parts of his workshop and more wood for Kidz First bowls.

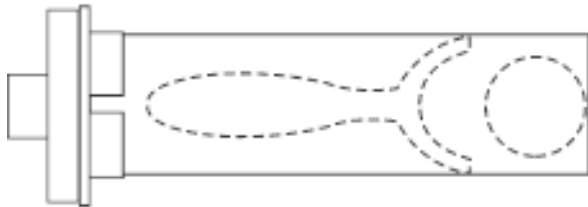
The person who put walnut shells and macadamia nuts in the goodie bags from which nobody made anything.

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## Club Night 11 October 2006. Toys for Christmas

Mac Duane made a Ball and Cup toy and Bryden Thorpe showed us a helicopter. The full drawings for these are included here to encourage members to make more toys for the Guild to give to Kidz First at Christmas. Or you can make other toys, or small bowls which we will fill with lollies on the last night of this term. Then the whole lot will go to Kidz First.

### BALL AND CUP TOY



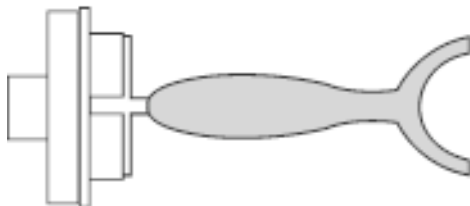
Round a length of wood and mount it in a chuck. The length and diameter of this wood will be determined by the size of ball you plan to make. The diameter of the wood should be about 40% greater than the ball diameter and the total wood length at least 5 times the ball diameter.



Make a ball at the exposed end of the wood. Sand and finish the ball. The hole to put the string through the ball may be drilled at this time while the wood is steady in the lathe.



Part the ball off. Sand and finish the parting area. Set the ball aside. Cut a cup into the end of the wood. Check that the cup is large enough to catch the ball. Sand and finish the inside of this cup.



Cut the outside of the cup and the handle, except for a bit left to keep the wood on the lathe. Sand and finish the outside of this area. The hole to put the string through the handle may be drilled at this time while the wood is steady in the lathe.

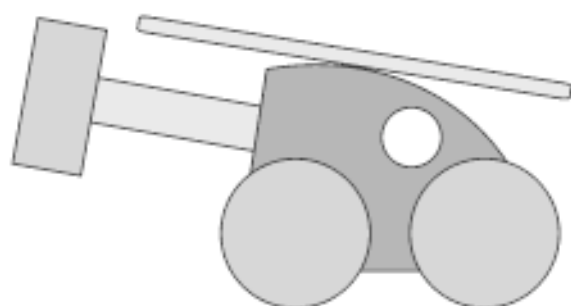


Part the handle off. Sand and finish the parting area. If holes were not drilled earlier, drill them now at the points shown. Join the ball to the cup with a 300 to 500mm length of string.

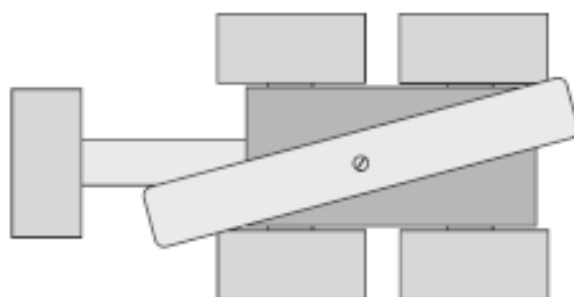
For more woodturning project sheets have a look at the projects section of our website  
<http://www.sawg.org.nz/>

## THE HELICOPTER

THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO SCALE. THE OVERALL SIZE AND PROPORTIONS OF THE HELICOPTER ARE YOUR CHOICE.



SIDE VIEW



PLAN VIEW



BACK VIEW

SIDE VIEW

CUT THE BODY TO SHAPE.

DRILL WHEEL AXLE HOLES THROUGH AT 1MM LARGER THAN THE DOWELING YOU INTEND TO USE. DRILL ONE OR TWO WINDOWS WITH THIS DRILL.

DRILL FOR THE TAIL INTO THE BACK OF THE BODY AT THE SIZE OF THE DOWEL YOU INTEND TO USE.

DRILL A PILOT HOLE SLIGHTLY FORWARD OF THE HIGHEST POINT OF THE BODY FOR THE SCREW TO ATTACH THE ROTOR LATER.

SAND AND FINISH.



MAKE FIVE WHEELS. DRILL THREE QUARTERS THROUGH EACH AT THE SIZE OF THE DOWEL YOU INTEND TO USE. MEASURE THE DEPTH OF THIS HOLE. SAND AND FINISH.



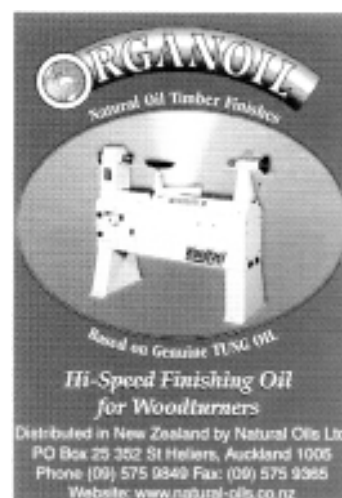
CUT THREE LENGTHS OF DOWEL. ALL THE SAME LENGTH. EQUAL TO THE BODY WIDTH, PLUS TWO TIMES THE DEPTH OF THE HOLE IN A WHEEL, PLUS 2MM.

YOU MAY NEED TO SAND THE DOWEL TO BE USED FOR THE TAIL.



MAKE A ROTOR. THE WIDTH ABOUT FOUR TIMES THE THICKNESS. DRILL A CENTRAL HOLE TO TAKE A ROUND-HEADED SCREW.

ASSEMBLE AND TEST FLY.



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## Club Night 18 October 2006. Sandpapers

It is always great to welcome a new and potentially beneficial product to the woodworking world. Stephen Dickins if MRE Systems did just that.

The MRE of the name is for Modified Reinforced Emery and Abrasives. Stephen has added a backing to regular sandpapers to strengthen the paper or enable it to be torn into strips for special uses. He has further improved the strips by using a backing which will not tear cross-wise as cloth-backed paper is prone to do.

For any operation where sandpaper is likely to tear before the grit is worn away, this new development will be great. It is certainly a competitor for cloth-backed abrasives.



*Above and below. Woodturning by Neal DeVore*



The best thing you can do behind someone's back is to pat it.

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## Club Night 25 October 2006. Small Items for the Craft Market

Neal DeVore from Oroville, California, started the evening with a slide show of items for a little more than the craft market. Neal is a production turner specialising in burlwood and natural edge products. The burl wood supply is still good in his area as there are people searching out burls in logged over land and other private property. Some of the burls he starts with are certainly in the "Huge" class (at an appropriate price) as shown by the picture with his wife, Deanna, included. Neal uses every scrap of each burl from gallery quality vases and bowls down to craft market style bottle stoppers and coasters.



Tom Pearson followed with a considerable array of craft items. Each item was labelled and ready for display. He then quickly turned two double-ended turtles from a single spindle-mounted piece of wood. This certainly emphasised the need to make these craft sale items quickly. A significant part of the speed of his work was that he had templates from which to mark the wood before cutting. Having this template and a clear knowledge of the process needed made the whole task much faster. The same applied to a dibbler he made next. His preferred finish is sanding sealer followed by Organoil Woodwipe.

A raffia-tied label made these, and all his work, into very presentable craft sale items.



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## 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.

<b>Wed 1 November</b>	<b>Deep Hollowing.</b> Tools and methods to cur wood further away from the toolrest will be shown by Dick Veitch.
<b>Sat 4 November</b>	<b>Upskills Day.</b> 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”.
<b>Wed 8 November</b>	<b>Bowl Design.</b> A discussion and demonstration to help make your bowls better. Led by Michael Bernard and Gordon Pembridge.
<b>Sat 11 November</b>	<b>Working Bee.</b> Doors open 8:30am. There are always cleaning tasks and repairs to be done. Your chance to put a bit back into the club.
<b>Wed 15 November</b>	<b>Clinic and Hands-on</b> to make those Term Project toys and small bowls. Bring your problem pieces, tools for sharpening, and your project making gear.
<b>Sat 18 November</b>	<b>Ornamental Turners.</b> Start time 1:00pm. Learn and share in this precision art.
<b>Wed 22 November</b>	<b>Cutting, storing, and drying wood.</b> An assemblage of the options by Dick Veitch.
<b>Wed 29 November</b>	<b>Bowl spigots – decoration and salvage.</b> John Whitmore will show us a few tricks.
<b>Wed 6 December</b>	<b>Natural Edge Bowl.</b> An excellent way to utilise fresh-cut wood shown to us by Mac Duane.
<b>Sat 9 December</b>	<b>Working Bee.</b> Doors open 8:30am. There are always cleaning tasks and repairs to be done. Your chance to put a bit back into the club.
<b>Wed 13 December</b>	<b>Last Night of the Year</b> 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.

### Christmas Sale 2006

This will again be held in Accent Point, Papakura. This year in the shop space opposite the area we used last year. This promises to be a larger and more user-friendly area. Fitting out will be done on Saturday 2 December starting at 0830 and this will be followed by a Guillotine Party at 48 Manse Road. Sale items will be laid out on Sunday 3 December starting at 0830. The official opening, and wine and cheese, is from 6 to 9pm on Sunday 3 December. Please invite all your friends.

Club members who want to have work in this sale need to be allocated numbers by Dick Veitch.

Club members who just wish to help during the sale should contact Bob Yandell to be included in the roster.

### Training Plan 2007

The training plan for 2007 is now being formulated. The current idea is that two day Beginner Training courses should continue as before but with a \$10 booking confirmation fee. Other two day courses will be created around a theme and open to all woodturners. Themes currently under consideration are: Bowl Making – shape, form, chisels to use, etc.; Platters – shape, process, decoration, presentation, etc.; Hollow Forms – planning, tools, decoration, etc.; Bowl Enhancement – decoration, inlays, carving, burning, etc. Any club member who has in mind a particular theme, and knows a tutor for that theme, please contact Dick Veitch.

### Welcome New Members

We welcome Larry Blowers from Hillsborough and David Stubbins from Howick and wish you many years of happy woodturning.



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## Vaughn Richmond was Here

If you could line up a lot of woodturning from around the world, you could probably separate out the Vaughn Richmond style. But it is the methods and work style he used that really stick in my mind.

He explained that he started his turning with a little old lathe and things like chucks were not invented. He has since progressed to a bigger and sturdier lathe but still works without a number of more recent woodturning inventions, including scroll chucks.

In place of a chuck he uses hot melt glue. The glue gun is on all the time. He starts with the blank glued to a block on a faceplate. After turning and finishing the underside of a bowl he glues the foot to a block on a faceplate. To get the finished work off – just give it a thump in the right direction then use some thinners to take the glue remnants off.

He did have a strong recommendation to use only the best glue which he considers to be Bostik 6306. A Bostik representative in Auckland assured me that this is the glue in the Bostik 10 pack on hardware store shelves.

Vaughn showed and created a number of bowl changes, often to take account of a fault in the wood. He cut, sawed and sanded and it was great to see how all that was done with relative ease.

He had members from the audience applying colour and gold leaf. Here the final outcomes were a little less predictable but with infinite possibilities.



## Deane Liddle Tool Auction

We are pleased to be able to help Deane's family by offering the following items for sale. This is being done by Silent Auction closing at 7:00pm on Wednesday 29 November.

All the items listed, as well as his Tanner lathe, can be viewed and bid on in the clubrooms.

- 1 Vacuum pump. 4 m<sup>3</sup>/h
- 2 Long tool rest 1" shaft
- 3 Black butt burl
- 4 Red mallee burl
- 5 Black butt burl
- 6 Black butt burl
- 7 Black boy tree root
- 8 Banksia nut
- 9 Banksia nut
- 10 Woodcut straight shaft hollowing tool
- 11 Woodcut hollowing tool extension handle
- 12 Sorby bowl gouge 10mm
- 13 Small carving chisels
- 14 Assorted (13) detail chisels
- 15 Ashley Isles detail chisels (10)
- 16 Marples carving tool set
- 17 Teknatool scroll chuck with 50mm jaws, to fit Tanner lathe
- 18 Archer flexible shaft carver/decorator with rotary and impact heads
- 19 Dremel type cutters (10)
- 20 Dremel type cutters (18)
- 21 Sorby 30mm roughing gouge
- 22 Woodcut 13mm bowl gouge
- 23 13mm Jacobs chuck on No 2 MT with key
- 24 Wooden box odd and ends incl Tape measure, mallet, small diamond lap
- 25 Pen making kit and parts
- 26 Tungsten tipped hollower and detail chisels
- 27 Curved tungsten tipped hollower, scraper and 2 miniature chisels
- 28 Tungsten tipped hollower, parting tool blade and small chisel
- 29 Fine spindle gouge, heavy scraper and assorted chisels
- 30 P&N Cobalt Super Scraper, parting tool blade and chisels
- 31 Sorby 25mm skew, parting tool blade and 2 scrapers
- 32 Dust extractor, 1hp
- 33 Dust collector and 100mm dia hose
- 34 Compressor. Home made/modified. Capacities not known
- 35 Assorted wooden jam chucks and forms
- 36 1 medium grade diamond hone
- 37 90mm jaws for a Tanner chuck
- 38 Large spur drive and live centre No 2 MT
- 39 Four pieces wood
- 40 Four pieces wood
- 41 Acetylene bottle

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## Pricing Woodturning

There is much written about the pricing and marketing of art and craft work. You should now be looking closely at your work for the Christmas sale.

Please, don't use the excuse that you are just a hobby turner, the wood was free and I am retired so my time is free too. This really undervalues your true worth as well as the years of your experience, and the cost of tools, storage, sandpaper, and finishes. Make the right decision on prices now and next year when the critic says "That will cost too much" you can respond "It is the money I earned at the Christmas sale."

What is the real cost of producing a small 200mm bowl? Wood \$9.00 – you either purchase the wood or use petrol to drive out and chainsaw it. Then there is bandsaw, Mobilcer and space to store it – \$2.00. Lathe and chucks say \$7.00 – based on \$3000 capital value divided by 40 bowls a year over ten years. Chisels \$2.00 – allow for just one new chisel each year at \$80.00 and production of those 40 bowls. Now turn the bowl and sand it. Sandpaper \$1.00 (being very frugal), some dremel use, sanding sealer, and wax to finish – add another \$1.00 at least. So, you have actually spent \$23.00 with no allowance for wood that is wasted; overheads like the cost of your shed; or R & D – time that you take to learn new skills.

What about your time? From collecting the wood and storing it, picking the dry block from the woodheap, rounding it on the bandsaw, drilling it to mount on the lathe, cut and sand the outside, turn it around, cut and sand the inside, add a little decoration, take it off the lathe, stand back and admire it – one and a half hours at \$26.00 gives a total bowl cost of \$62.00.

That is your minimum wholesale price for your most basic bowl of plain, unrecognised, ordinary, wood.

Now you can start adding a little for a well figured bit of wood such as macrocarpa or blackwood with character, or unrecognised but figured native timbers such as matai, ngaio or miro. Add a bit more for recognised timber types such as oak, walnut, kauri and rimu. Include a bit to contribute to a gift for your closest critic. Type a little informative label and add a bit to the price for that. Make a box and add a bit for that. Then total that up and add whatever your vendor will be taking as commission – that is the real sale price.

If you are doing a clock, peppermill, pot pourri, or anything which includes a purchased part, remember to add the real cost of that part, which may well include the postage of the parts and your phone call to order them.

Now get it all on display. Each piece clean and polished. If it is a little vase then add a few sprigs of dried flowers and include that in the price. Put some scent in the pot pourri and include that in the price. Adding a few lollies in a small bowl is fine but people do like to caress the wood so wrapping the bowl does not seem to work. Platters, even small ones, do benefit from being on a stand – but make it a nice stand.

If you can, include some high priced work in your collection – this makes the mid-priced work look so much more affordable.

Never undervalue your work and please don't undercut the realistic prices your mates are putting on their work.

## TIMBER

WOODTURNING BLANKS, SLABS, & PLANKS

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## Sharp Tools Work Best

If you have ever had to use a blunt chainsaw, a rusty spanner, or had a wheelbarrow with a flat tyre, I am sure you will agree that 'sharp' tools work best. And it is not that you can't get the job done, but rather it is frustrating, takes longer, and the results are not as satisfying. There is nothing more infuriating than knowing there is a better way – but still having to go about the job in the same old way we always have.

- unknown original source, contributed by Jim Downs.

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## The “Hardwood” and “Softwood” Description.

Hardwood trees belong to the botanical group *Angiospermae*, which are flowering broadleaved plants. This is a scientific grouping and, while it is true that most botanically grouped hardwoods will produce harder wood than most botanically grouped softwoods, there are many exceptions. New Zealand trees of the *Angiospermae* group which may produce wood for turning are: tawa, taraire, mangeao, pukatea, rewarewa, karo, kanuka, pohutukawa, rata, hinau, houhere, kamahi, kowhai, beech, kohekohe, titoki, mapou, black maire, and many more like these.

Softwood trees come from cone-bearing, or coniferous, trees with exposed seeds belonging to the botanical group *Gymnospermae*. This is a scientific grouping, rather than one of purely physical properties. As timber, softwoods are described as falling into a generally lighter colour range. New Zealand members of the *Gymnospermae* group are: kauri, kawaka, totara, miro, matai, kahikatea, rimu, silver pine, tanekaha, and their close relatives.

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