

TurningTalk

Turning Tomorrow's Treasures

20th
Anniversary
Year

Issue No 168

Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild

August 2008

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SAWG COMMITTEE

President

Dick Veitch 298 5775

Vice President

Bob Yandell 537 3815

Past President

Michael Bernard 09 425 6782

Secretary

Tom Pearson 575 4994

Treasurer

Cathy Langley 630 2091

Editor

Mike Clausen 525 3586

Members:

Mac Duane, Terry Meekan,
Gordon Pembroke,
Terry Scott, Les Sivewright,
John Whitmore, Don Wood

Webmaster

Rex Haslip 267 3548

Club Meetings:

Wed nights - 7.00 pm
(Doors open - 5.00 pm)

Club Rooms:

Papatoetoe Community
Centre, Tavern Lane,
Papatoetoe,
South Auckland, NZ

Contact us:

Website: www.sawg.org.nz

Secretary - Correspondence:

12 Kirkmay Place,
Kohimarama, Auckland
tom.pearson@xtra.co.nz

Newsletter contributions:

4/4 William Ave, Greenlane,
Auckland 1061
cheers@slingshot.co.nz

NAW launches major new development initiative for Clubs at AGM in Christchurch

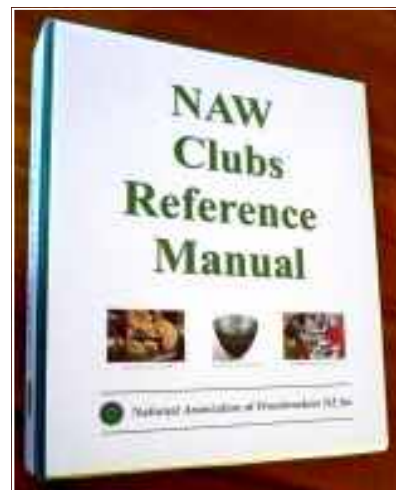
NAW President, Mark von Dadelszen, at the NAW AGM in Christchurch on Saturday 19 July, introduced a new NAW initiative:

"The NAW has produced a major resource for its member guilds and clubs in the form of a Club Reference Manual. Copies were distributed at the recent NAW AGM in Christchurch on Saturday 19 June, and other member guilds and clubs will receive their copies shortly. The Manual contains material that should provide Club and Guild committees and officers with guidance and practical ideas on administering their organisations, on educational activities, on health and safety, and public relations and marketing.

This initiative is the brainchild of SAWG member and NAW Committee member, Mike Clausen, and he deserves the credit for the idea and the content. The concept was adopted with enthusiasm by the NAW Committee. The material in the Manual now was derived from a number of sources (including the SAWG itself), and has been reviewed by the other members of the NAW Committee prior to printing. The Manual contains,

already, valuable resource material; such as copies of the NAW's Constitution and Polices on Demonstrator Tours; Education and Opportunity Grants; Health and Safety; Clubs' Public Liability cover, and its Member Services such as the magazine *Creative Wood* and its website. A special section called the *ToolKit* offers practical information and ideas on the many aspects of Club management on subjects such as establishing club executive and committee roles; club evaluation guides and legal issues regarding setting up your club. Additional material will be added as it is prepared, e.g. fundraising, finance management, event planning, committee and club meetings management, membership recruiting and support, and more. Contributions and suggestions are invited.

The NAW member guilds and clubs throughout New Zealand already benefit from the NAW guild and club insurance scheme covering them for indemnity for personal injury and damage to property up to \$5,000,000 (the sum assured), and with indemnity for statutory liability up to \$250,000. They are periodically offered tours by demonstrators and also receive *Creative Wood* for their libraries. The Club Reference Manual now provides a very tangible resource for each guild and club. Additional content will be prepared and distributed as "a work in progress", and ideas for its improvement will be welcomed.



Cont. on page 3

Club calendar

20th
Anni-

Coming events

Third Term 2008

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

On our regular Wednesday evenings, the official meeting starts at 7.00pm. For those wishing to make use of the machinery, do some shopping, check out our library, get a little extra advice, or just socialise, the doors open at 5pm.

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, brought to the 'show-and-tell' table each meeting.

- Sat 2 Aug** **Upskills Morning.** Doors open 8:30am. Improve your skills, help others improve, or just come along, turn some wood, enjoy coffee and chat.
- Wed 6 Aug** **Spindle Multi-demo** - Aoraki students
- Sat 9 Aug** **Working Bee.** Doors open 8:30am
Your chance to put back into the club
- Wed 13 Aug** **Band Saws and their care** - Allan Gator
- Sat 16 Aug** **Ornamental Turners.** Starting 1pm
Learn this fascinating craft and help make and use a Rose Engine.
- Wed 20 Aug** **Fruit and Nuts** - Carol Knowles/Bob Yandell
- Sat 23 Aug** **Aoraki Course Stage 2**
- Wed 27 Aug** **Hands-on Night - Balusters** (do some work or get help on your Term project)
- Sat 30 Aug** **Aoraki Course Stage 2**
- Sun 31 Aug** **Aoraki Course Stage 2**
- Wed 3 Sep** **Machinery Demo** - Grant Oxenbridge
- Sat 6 Sep** **Upskills Morning.** Doors open 8:30am. Improve your skills, help others improve, or just come along, turn some wood, enjoy coffee and chat.
- Wed 10 Sep** **Baby Rattles** - Bruce Wood
- Sat 13 Sep** **Working Bee.** Doors open 8:30am
Your chance to put back into the club
- Wed 17 Sep** **Sale Items** -
- Sat 20 Sep** **Ornamental Turners.** Starting 1pm
Learn this fascinating craft and help make and use a Rose Engine.
- Wed 24 Sept** **Invitation for *Participation*** visitors to demonstrate their skills
- Fri 26 - Sun 28 Sep** **'Participation 2008'** - Our big event of the year. See p.7 for details.

2008

12-14 September Kawerau National Woodskills Festival.
Opening night Thursday 11 September. Entries were due 1st August. Exhibits due by 29 August.

20 and 21 September - Woodcraft 2008.

Guild of Woodworkers Wellington
Horticultural Hall, Laings Road, Lower Hutt.

26 to 28 September - Participation 2008

This annual event will again be held at the South Auckland Woodturners Guild Clubrooms. Book your space **now** - not many left! (Details on p.7)

10 to 12 October - Tauranga Woodcrafters Club Annual Show

Greerton Community Hall, 1263 Cameron Road, Greerton, Tauranga. Woodcraft made by club members will be for sale. Active displays from six guest exhibitors including Shane Hewitt and Robbie Graham.

1 Oct to 2 Nov - Spin Around Waitaki - Waitaki Woodturners Guild

18 October - Official opening of Franklin clubrooms
More details later.

For more details on these and other events, nationwide and overseas, check out the latest update on "What's On" in the NAW website -

www.naw.org.nz/whatson.htm

Editor's Corner



It's always a challenge at the beginning of each month's newsletter when you sit down in front of the computer and think about filling the blank pages with material you hope will be of interest to a majority of the readers - you can't always expect to please them all!

The routine notices are easy enough (usually) but the more creative stuff - demo and events coverage, particularly, occupy a lot more time in forward planning, recruiting contributors, chasing up, editing, downloading articles and photos, more editing. All interesting work, until the printer and/or computer has a seizure or complete mental breakdown. That's the exciting part, when the deadline vs. your fast-ebbing philosophical detachment level is due to coincide.

In the end, when it all finally comes together and the *Send* mail button is pushed and the printed copies are all bundled up, life is all worthwhile again and you can rejoin the human race - until next month. Last week I was in Christchurch with woodturning (NAW) and family, next week I'll be in Aussie with more family and *maybe* some woodturning. Wish me luck! Cheers, Ed.



**The South Auckland
Woodturners Guild**
is a member of the



National Association of Woodworkers NZ Inc
and the
American Association of Woodturners

Individual members receive a different range of benefits from membership from guilds and clubs, such as their own magazines, access to an ever-improving website, and educational activities organised or supported by the NAW (demonstrator tours, symposiums, and educational grants). Some of these benefits are also enjoyed by others who are not individual members, and it would be nice if more joined the NAW.

The NAW Committee is always looking for ways to add value to its activities so members benefit more. The introduction and launch of the Club Reference Manual is an excellent example of the sort of service the NAW can provide for the benefit of NAW member guilds and clubs (and, of course, in consequence their members). I believe very strongly that the NAW only deserves to exist if it provides value-for-money services to its members, and that has been my motivation as President in changing the way the NAW operates.

I thank Mike for advancing that vision in a practical and effective way!"

- Mark von Dadelszen, President, NAW

NAW AGM Images

20th
Anniversary
Year



Some 30 hardy souls braved the winter temperatures in Christchurch to attend the NAW Annual General Meeting and take in ideas and inspiration from four popular woodturning demonstrators (all from the North Island). The venue was a lecture theatre at the College of Education, University of Canterbury. The now standard format of two demonstrations, lunch, AGM and then two more demo's was followed, with NAW President Mark von Dadelszen expediting the formal business side of things. The current committee was re-elected, with the exception of Jim Manley who had earlier withdrawn from his role of Vice-President to pursue other interests. The Vice-President's role was left unfilled for the time being.



Dick Veitch works on the lid and finial of a lidded box with a lighter coloured inlaid rim - (Left)



Rolly shows his mini-hollower at work on a thin-walled vase, with the aid of the strong light (Below)



Jim Lowe, following on from scrollsaw exponent Allan Sanson, shows it is also possible to turn a ginger nut biscuit - using a very light touch!



Jim Manley demonstrates his method of creating the ideal curve on a bowl using a series of vertical divisions drawn on the side of a prepared bowl blank.

Oops! TERM 2 AWARDS WINNERS

The Term Project - a platter by Colin Mitchell was declared the winner - the correct platter should have been the one shown at right.



Life Members' Award - we also wish to thank **Stihl Shop Botany** for their contribution to The Life Members Award for Excellence in Woodturning.

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Website: www.tistools.co.nz
Email: kris@toolandindustrial.co.nz

P.O. Box 39673
Howick
Auckland

Club activities

Term 3 Project: **Balusters**

More than two years ago, Dave Anderson taught us how to turn graceful balusters, and the result was about 50 of all styles and timbers. They are fascinating in their variety, and also prevent us from falling off the end of our staged seating area.

As they've been so useful and decorative, we decided to add more, so we asked Dave to come back on 23 July to remind the older members, and show the newer ones, how it's done.

Dave spent 19 years turning for Woodcroft industries. (The longest spindle he ever turned was the centre post for a spiral staircase, 7.5 metres long and about 300 mm in diameter, turned as one piece by linking several lathe beds together.) Dave now divides his time between turning, primarily for villa restoration, and raising his two children.

There are two types of baluster design, symmetrical and asymmetrical. With a symmetrical baluster, the top half is a mirror-image of the bottom. Start cutting the design at the centre and make a template to ensure each half is the same. If you turn an asymmetrical baluster, Dave suggests installing it so that the part that appears lighter is at the top.



Custom made gauge for critical parts.

Dave turned both types, taking it slow so that he could answer questions and explain the process. But when we asked him to demonstrate how he'd really do it, he obliged, producing an attractive baluster from a square-section blank with an excellent finish in less than 15 minutes. In the process, he explained what a production turner does to achieve efficiency, for example turning all features with diameter A, then all features with diameter B; and doing all the parts that require a skew chisel, and then all the parts that call for a spindle gouge.

Cont. next column

Cornwall Park venue for SAWG Demonstration

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Our Club has been fortunate to be invited to demonstrate at the Cornwall Park Information Centre for the past several years as part of the Park's 'Crafts and Hobbies' programme. Each Sunday over June/July different groups spend a day exhibiting their work. Groups as varied as embroidery, woodturning, quilting, weaving and the Vintage Tool Collectors. The event was advertised in the *Central Courier* and on the Cornwall Park Winter programme to encourage visitors.



Terry Meekan and Tom Pearson took along mini lathes and entertained people who wandered in to escape the rain. A few even came specially to see the woodturning. Goblets and pens were made to give away and there was time to spend talking to interested people about turning. Potential club members were encouraged to come along to visit the club. After a slow start, the sun came out, people came past on their walks and the afternoon became quite busy with up to 15 onlookers at a time gathered into the smallish room.

Suddenly, it was 4.00 p.m. Time to pack up and go home. A most satisfying day of turning, talking woodturning and meeting people.

Report by Tom Pearson

Balusters - Continued

This is the term project, so give it a try, and your baluster will grace the clubroom for years to come.

Dimensions are critical. Length must be exactly 500mm, plus the spigots at each end which must be 20mm long x 20mm in diameter, i.e. a total length of 540mm overall. Max. diameter is 75mm.

Drill a 20 mm hole in a waste block, to test the fit. Undercut the shoulder at top and bottom, to ensure there's no gap showing between baluster and hand-rail. The design is up to you. Mark the top spigot "T" for "top" so we can install it as you intended!

Have a look at the ones that are already in the clubroom, for inspiration. For those of you with Internet access, there are many sites showing sample designs, including

<http://www.woodworkscompany.com/balusters.html>

<http://www.brownwoodinc.com/custom-turning/default.html>

- Cathy Langley

Why Woodcut?

By Terry Scott

Peter from Woodcut Tools emailed a few days ago and asked if I would like to put a few of his tools through a Terry Scott test (You know the one - if Terry cannot break, it no one can.).



I sent this picture back to him. What did he think I had been doing for the last 5 years? I didn't let on that the seven chisels to the left are my travelling kit, unhandled so a converted Rolly handle can be used when travelling. This means I can bring more wood home on my return.

Nor did I tell him that I have a few he would shudder at if he saw how I have mutilated the shape of his grind.

When I am demonstrating I portray to new turners that you need only three chisels when you start turning: a 13mm bowl gouge, a parting tool and a skew. But, in fact, as you do more turning and branch out into different styles and shapes you will find a need for other grinds (my excuse for being a toolaholic).

Ok, so why do I have Woodcut chisels? Firstly remember that I am a toolaholic and I have most brands of chisels. I found a 13 mm Woodcut gouge to be my tool of choice, or as an Aussie mate said, his "go to" tool. You know, the one you reach for first. Before I knew it others in the Woodcut range were finding their way into my hands. Being the curious type I had to justify this somehow.

I also class myself in the "unable to sharpen my tools properly" class and often blame the tool. Somehow with the woodcut tipped tools I started to get a reasonable edge. Maybe my brain connected with this fact, these tools would be sharp opposed to others I sharpen.

Woodcut tools have the following qualities:

1st Quote: "We use M2 high speed steel in the tips which we triple temper to 62 Rockwell hardness. Shafts are ex High Tensile 4140." What the heck this means I wouldn't have a clue. I only understand two things about steel: it is heavy and it gets hot. I suppose if you cut it short you can glue it back together with some hot sparky thing.

2nd Because of the solid shaft I am sure I can overhang my chisel more without unnecessary vibration. The constant length of tool is an advantage as I don't end up picking up another tool to find I have to move the tool rest because I have worn away half the shaft. Probably like hopping out of your four wheel drive then having to drive your wife's car that feels like it is a go cart because it is so close to the ground.

3rd Is the price, tools in the same quality bracket are usually English or American made. Pricing out the Woodcut tools I found they are 20% cheaper and because of the exchange rates in other countries I am sure this would still hold true.

4th Peter has done a lot of research into the ergonomics of the tool handles as they seem to cope with irregularities in the timber being turned, have less impact on the user and I feel I have more control over the timber.

5th The tips are easily replaced. The shaft has a spigot which slots into a hole of the same size in the tip. 'Loctite' or any CA glue will hold the new tip in place. To get the old tip off, heat needs be applied to the join, which effectively loosens the existing glue. New tips can be purchased at a fraction of the cost of a new tool and simply glued on.

Some of the tools in the Woodcut Range include:

- 10mm Bowl Gouge
- 10mm Detail Gouge
- 13mm (really 1/2 inch) Bowl Gouge
- 13mm Spindle Gouge
- 16mm (really 5/8 inch) Bowl Gouge
- 19mm (really 3/4 inch) Bowl Gouge
- 19mm Spindle Gouge

Peter asked that I test the tools. I didn't need to as they have received 'the big tick' a long time ago.

Kawerau Woodskills Festival

12 - 14 September

Fri & Sat 9:00 - 4:30pm

Sun 9:00 - 3:30pm

Woodturning, Carving, Marquetry & Intarsia,
Toys/Models/Replicas, Home Furniture,
Whakairo/Mythology

A great day out for all the Family

Treeworkx Open Day

Isn't it great when words like "more" and "better" pop to the front of your mind when you reminisce about an event. That was certainly true, again, for Treeworkx Open Day 2008.

"More" wood. A couple of new sheds, planks stacked along an entire wall of the big shed, the bowl blank racks very full, and more planks in a new shed. All those planks were dressed so that the buyer can see exactly what is there. Ron and Graham have obviously put in many hours of work to make this wood available.

"Better" certainly applies to the wood but I probably should not apply it to this years equally good demonstrators for fear of retribution from past demonstrators. Once again, though, Ron and Graham brought in a lineup of excellent demonstrators to show us a wide array of new and different things.

Three of Graham's students were there. One with a ship's steering wheel – turned spokes and numerous interesting inlays – destined to be a coffee table in land-locked Matamata. Another turning, cutting, and carving parts for a rocking chair. Then there was the broken guitar with a new body progressing well.

Off-centre pot pourri, candle holders, lidded boxes, and bowls are an Eric Wolfe speciality. Just a little extra effort to get that off-set and there is an interesting new design.

The cogs, wheels, springs, and plates of the ornamental turning rig were shown by Fred Irvine – absolutely in his natural element.

Mark von Dadelszen brought us colour with a case full of finished work and many new colours applied to wood on the lathe.

Then there were barley twists from Maurice McManners. The plotting, spacing, marking, and cutting was an obvious interest to many. Later some miniature cabriole legs too.

Fishy was there too with his array of Teknatool and Woodcut products. A couple of nice new items – the small Fishy Toolrest, now made by Woodcut, and a good solid 150mm faceplate. Both worthy additions to any woodturner's collection.

Ross with a trailer load of miro, rimu, and maire – most gone very quickly.

Not-to-forget Off 'n' On's Astra Dot paper, finishes, waxes, buffs, and more – once again my money was spent.

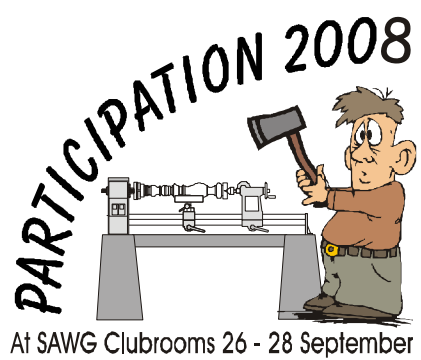
Oh, with all that excitement I forgot the other "more" – more rain than for a few years past. But that just kept the people inside seeing more woodturning and finding more nice wood.

Thanks Ron and Graham for a great day.



- Photos & report by Dick Veitch





PARTICIPATION 2008

It's on again!

**Woodturning for Everyone
Sharing, Watching, Learning, Teaching, Enjoying**

When: Friday 26th September from 9:00am 'til late,
Saturday 27th 7:30am 'til late
and Sunday 28th 7:30am to 3:00pm

Where: At our club rooms Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe. (Limited to the first 60 paying participants)

The theme for the weekend is making a platter with a decorated or carved rim.

There will be a prize for the most original platter.

Each Participant will be given a piece of timber to make a bowl for *Kidz First* at Christmas

**Bring a lathe for your own use and to share with others
With that bring chucks, extension lead and a light**

Don't have a lathe? You can book a club lathe free of charge but if you are able to bring your lathe it is preferable as you may have to share if all the club lathes are in use. First in first served.

Everyone bring some wood - or purchase on site from the shop and sponsors.

Bottomless tea & coffee (cake if someone gives it). Friday night: \$6.00 per head for pizza - pay on the night.

Saturday and Sunday lunch provided. Saturday evening Dinner Barbecue.

Trade sponsors for the weekend:

- Turning Tools Ltd.**, (Ian Fish) Ph: 418 1312 Teknatool, Woodcut, and Fishy's own supplies.
- Treeworkx** (Graham Oliver) treeworkx@xtra.co.nz Off 'n' ons, Astra dot Sandpaper and a lot more.
Check out their website http://www.treeworkx.co.nz/treeworkx_online_catalogue_print.htm
- Ross & Heather Vivian**, P.O. Box 7, Stratford, Taranaki. Ph: 06 765 5219. email: h.rvivian@xtra.co.nz
Ross will be bringing a truckload of wood or you can also order your preferred selection.
- Tool & Industrial Supplies**, 44A Neilpark Dr, East Tamaki. Ph 272 9191. www.tistools.co.nz
- Carba-Tec**, 110 Harris Road, East Tamaki. Ph: 274 9454. www.carbatec.co.nz
- Motor Technologies**, Variable speed units for your lathe. Brent, Ph: 0508 315 063 09 917 4570
- McEntee Hire**, for all equipment hire needs. Ph: 0800 470 370
- Jim Downs Timber**, Ancient Kauri cut to order 15 Coulston Rd, RD 2, Pukekohe. Ph: 09 238 6197

Complete and return this part of the page with your payment

Mail to: "Participation Registration, Terry Scott, 320 Hunua Road, Papakura"

Please make cheques payable to: South Auckland Woodturners Guild. Ph 021 998 493 / 09 297 7051

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Costs: Full weekend just: \$65.00. Non-participating partners: \$30.00. Juniors: (Under 16) \$25.00.
 Dinner (extras welcome): \$30.00 ea. Saturday only including dinner \$45.00, without \$35. Sunday: \$25
Total Paid : \$ _____ Cheque [] Visa/Mastercard (add 5% please) [] Cash []

I am able to bring my lathe/s: Yes [] No [] Lathe type/size _____

I wish to use a club lathe: Yes [] No []

I require a billet for the weekend: Yes [] No [] I can billet _____ people.



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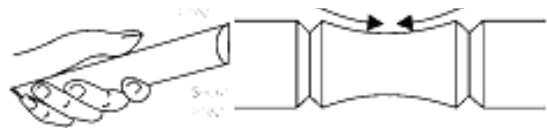
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