

# TurningTalk

Turning Tomorrow's Treasures

Issue No 181

Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild

October 2009

## Participation 2009

Arriving for my first-ever Participation on the Saturday morning with the event already a day old, I could not believe that the air at the SAWG clubrooms could still be breathed without serious lung damage- the filters were



working overtime and at times it seemed difficult to see, let alone breathe!

The atmosphere, shavings and airborne sawdust aside, was little short of brilliant. Well organised (as can be always expected of SAWG), the temporarily extended SAWG clubrooms were humming with a multitude and variety of lathes, conversations and laughter as attendees turned and turned and ... (you get the idea).

First up were compulsory bowls for donation to kidsfirst and then it was on with whatever people wanted. From

### Recipe for A Successful "Participation"

- \* 54 Lathes,
- \* 65 enthusiastic Woodturners from all points keen to have a great time
- \* 110% organisation
- \* Marvellous venue (albeit, splitting at the seams)
- \* Awesome catering
- \* Air filters capable of serious over work
- \* Supportive sponsors & exhibitors
- \* Copious quantities of humour, friendship and camaraderie
- \* A dash of inspired turning

Method: Compress the above into 3 days and the result is a guaranteed **fantastic** Participation weekend.

small lidded boxes to large platters, decorative scroll saw work, embellishments; it was all represented.

A thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all and for those who could not attend, be sure that you put Participation 2010 in your diary now- you won't regret it.

Thanks to all associated with getting the show off the ground, the sponsors and exhibitors and a special thanks to the Manukau Toy Library who provided great catering to attendees over the course of the weekend.



## "My" Participation

By Colin Parkinson

*It was some time ago that I came to hear of Terry Scott and that because I'd grabbed a copy of Richard Raffans latest publication which Terry had been touting on Trademe- now bear with me while I digress a little...*

*I first got into turning wood about 4 years ago and that only because I needed to make a hammer head as part of a miniature blacksmith/ farriers set I was making out of wood. Lacking a lathe, I set to with a hand drill, a saw-horse, a carpenters chisel and after some heart stopping moments, duly turned out something passable (do not try this at home, it's not good unless you like to live dangerously). Any way to cut a long story short, I decided that I needed a small lathe to turn out little odds and sods that I tinker with and eventually grabbed a Black & Decker job off Trademe, made some tools and turned up a carving mallet, a replacement handle for my best fry pan and a few odds n ends. Damn, the woodturning bug bit me and the next thing I know I'd bought a Teknatool lathe complete with a truckload of wood. Now there's something about tools and materials, somehow the tools multiply and the materials, in this case wood just keeps appear-*

*(Continued on page 11)*

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## SAWG COMMITTEE

### President

Dick Veitch 298 5775

### Vice President

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### Past President

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### Secretary

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### Treasurer

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### 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](http://www.sawg.org.nz)

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### Contributors this month:

Warwick Day  
Bill Hartley  
Brian Hedge  
Ross Johnson (Photographs)  
Carol Knowles  
Colin Parkinson  
Terry Scott  
Dick Veitch

## Club calendar

All the activities listed here are in our clubrooms in the Papatoetoe Stadium Community Centre, Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe (see [www.sawg.org.nz](http://www.sawg.org.nz) for directions).

On our regular Wednesday evening meetings, the official meeting starts at 7.00pm and is followed by a "Show-&-Tell" session where members can show and discuss their work.

For those wishing to make use of the machinery, do some shopping, check out our li-brary, get a little extra advice, or just socialise, the doors open at 5pm.

We have a Table Prize for each term. This is members work on display - lessons learned (half-finished, flawed, or failed) to the best you can do that has been brought to the "Show-&-Tell" table during the term.

### TERM 4 2009

**Wed 28 Oct** Chair Making with Jim Black

**Wed 4 Nov** Hands On- Things for Kids First

**Wed 11 Nov** Making good use of burl wood-Bob Collins  
Mac Duane

**Sat 14 Nov** Working Bee - 8.30am - 10.30am  
Ornamental Turning - from 11am

**Wed 18 Nov** Teknatool and China- Brian Lattimer

**Wed 25 Nov** Sharpening- John Whitmore, Mac Duane, Dick Veitch

An up to date Calendar of Events can always be viewed at [www.sawg.org.nz](http://www.sawg.org.nz)

## Coming events

Put these dates in your diary:

### November

**28/29** Setting up for Christmas Sale

**29** Christmas Sale commences

*More details on these and other events, check out the latest update on [www.naw.org.nz/whatson.htm](http://www.naw.org.nz/whatson.htm)*

## Mini Lathes - FREE Loans



The Club has a few mini lathes available for use by members, at no cost, in their home workshops, club events or in the clubrooms. They come ready to go (just plug & play) complete with a Nova chuck and a set of tools. Usually they are available for two weeks, but depending on demand, extra time can be arranged. Turning blanks and a variety of finishing materials are available for purchase at the club shop.

*- Enquiries to Mac Duane, Tom Pearson  
or a Committee member.*



**The South Auckland Woodturners  
Guild**

*is a member of the  
National Association of  
Woodworkers NZ Inc  
and the  
American Association of  
Woodturners*



## Shavings

### Resignation

As indicated in last months newsletter, our Secretary, Mark Savill has recently had some health issues which have necessitated him resigning his position to focus on his recovery. With significant regret, his resignation has been accepted by the committee and immediate past Secretary Tom Pearson has re-assumed the position.

During his short tenure, Mark has "made his mark" using his professional accounting background and skills to ensure that the Guild is appropriately constituted and registered under the Charities Act as well as updating and documenting applicable Guild policy documentation.

On behalf of all your mates at SAWG, I would like to thank Mark for your sterling work and good humour and trust that your recovery is a speedy one and we look forward to seeing you back soon.

### Participation 2009 Mystery Object

No it wasn't a tool for tapping maple syrup, a window sash weight, a tool for extracting wisdom teeth (?!!!), a canvas or leather punch, a huge marlin-spike, a survey mark or a rivet punch.

It is in fact a black powder splitting gun. After felling a tree, the "gun" is driven into the base of the tree trunk, a fuse inserted into the black powder in the gun and the operator lights the fuse and shelters behind something substantial!

The splitting action is achieved by the shock wave from the gun rather than, as might be thought, a projectile. If the right amount of powder is used, the trunk is split in half and can then be quartered with a further charge. Too much and widespread kindling is the result!

### Mystery Tool Set

The mystery tool from last month was correctly identified by a number of readers as a homemade wire band tool that was used before "Jubilee" clips came along.

Probably what was used to fashion the wire band that held your grandparents Model T radiator hoses!

### Christmas Sale

From 29 November, the annual SAWG Christmas Sale will be held once again at Accent Point, Papakura and continue until Christmas. To enter items for sale, speak to Dick Veitch to obtain entry numbers and be sure to put your name down to help with manning the sale during the month it is open. Even if you do not enter items for sale and you have a couple of hours to spare, please assist the Guild by volunteering.

The Sale commences with a Wine & Cheese evening on the 29th at 7pm.

### Condolences

After a long battle with cancer, Jane Hewitt, wife of Peter Hewitt (of Woodcut Tools) recently died. Our condolences go to Peter and family.

### Woodturning Blanks

Jim Downs is very generously donating half of all proceeds from the sale of woodturning blanks sold to members until the end of the year to the Guild. (See Jims advertisement in the next column).

Please support Jim and the Guild if you are in the market for blanks of good quality and increasingly rare native timbers by visiting Jim at 15 Coulston Road, Pukekohe East.

Get a bunch of your mates, grab a trailer and empty his shed!!!

### Christmas Function

This year, the Guild Christmas Party will be once again hosted at Jim Downs property at 15 Coulston Road, Pukekohe East on Saturday, November 28th from 3pm.

Partners, friends and family are very welcome.

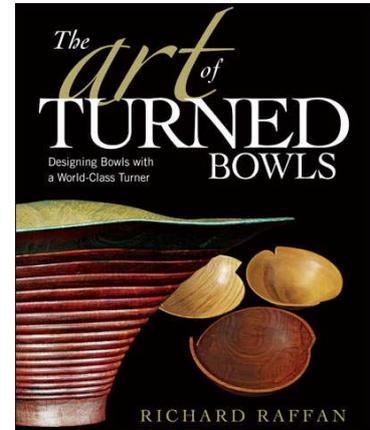
Contact David Jones at 299 5110 or email David at [d.f.m.jones@xtra.co.nz](mailto:d.f.m.jones@xtra.co.nz) to confirm your attendance.

Admission is a subsidised \$5 per head plus a contribution by way of nibbles, salad or WHY (David will let you know what is needed).

Jim suggests bringing togs as a heated swimming pool is available.

### Richard Raffan- "The Art of Turned Bowls" For Sale

Terry Scott has limited stock remaining of Richard Raffan's book "The Art of Turned Bowls" available for \$50 delivered anywhere in NZ.



This is a magnificent book and focuses less on technique than the aesthetics of bowl design and turning. It also features the work of a number of well-known local and international turners with the goal of sharing how to achieve artful bowls with a sense of balance and proportion.

To order your own copy, contact Terry at [Timberly@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Timberly@xtra.co.nz).

### Stock Reduction Sale

#### Woodturning Blanks, Slabs, Planks

<i>Totara</i>	<i>Cherry</i>
<i>Tanekaha</i>	<i>Miro</i>
<i>Chestnut</i>	<i>Manuka</i>
<i>Matai</i>	<i>Rewa Rewa</i>
<i>Rimu</i>	<i>Pohutukawa</i>
<i>Kauri</i>	<i>Puriri</i>
<i>Kohekohe</i>	<i>Beech</i>
<i>Black Wood</i>	<i>Moreton Bay Fig</i>
<i>Oak Panels</i>	
<i>Black Maire</i>	<i>And Much More!</i>

50% of proceeds go to SAWG funds

Offer available until December 31 2009

Phone 09 238 6197

**JIM DOWNS**  
15 Coulston Road, R.D 2  
Pukekohe East

# Franklin Arts Festival 2009

From Carole Knowles

One of the highlights on New Zealand's Woodturning calendar is the Franklin Arts Festival, held at the Pukekohe Town Hall in Pukekohe in September each year.

This year was the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this Festival and was held from the 5<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> of September. There were five categories: Painting, Textile, Photography, Ceramics, and Woodturning, all of which attracted excellent entries. It is apparent that there is no shortage of talent in the arts right here in New Zealand which is great to see.

In the Woodturning Section there was an increase in the number of entries (66 pieces). This is always a delight to see, as we as woodturners need to keep promoting ourselves to the public in this way, only then will we get the acknowledgement of our craft and in turn will possibly result in the attraction of more sponsors.

Awards Night was held on Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> of September this is all put on by volunteers of the Arts Festival Committee. Wine and nibbles were served throughout the evening, and a jazz trio quietly played in the background making this a very pleasant evening. Woodturning was of a high standard. Terry Scott and Dick Veitch cleaned up most of the awards, well deserved as both are highly respected turners. There were several new names amongst the entries and a couple of these achieved a placing as well.

With many woodturners now completing Aoraki Woodturning Courses around the country this must lead to more entries in competitions the future.

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**Best Overall – Terry Scott “Wings”**



**1st Undecorated Bowl – Terry Scott**



**1st Hollow Form – Terry Scott “Ginkgo 3”**



**Franklin Club Award – Dick Veitch “Rubbish”**



**1st Ornamental – Dick Veitch “Tubes”**



**2nd Lidded Box – Dick Veitch “Box with a Twist”**

## Mac's Maxim of the Month:

“Only you can put your ideas into Action”

-Mac Duane

## Franklin Arts Festival 2009 (cont'd)

(Continued from page 4)

### Franklin Woodturning Winners

#### Hollow Form/Vase

1<sup>st</sup> Terry Scott, Ginkgo 3  
2<sup>nd</sup> Dick Veitch, Wildflower Vase

#### Decorated Bowl or Platter

1<sup>st</sup> Terry Scott, untitled  
2<sup>nd</sup> Carole Knowles, Rimu

#### Undecorated Bowl

1<sup>st</sup> Terry Scott, untitled  
2<sup>nd</sup> Chris Jensen, Mottled Kauri

#### Lidded Box/Miniature

1<sup>st</sup> Luke Crowsen, Lidded Box  
2<sup>nd</sup> Dick Veitch, Box with a Twist

#### Ornamental

1<sup>st</sup> Dick Veitch, Tubes

#### Franklin Woodturners Members Only

1<sup>st</sup> Dick Veitch, Rubbish

#### Best Entry by a First Time Entrant

Heather Vivian, Goblet Box

#### Best Overall Exhibit

Terry Scott, Wings



1<sup>st</sup> Lidded Box– Luke Crowsen



2<sup>nd</sup> Hollow Form– Dick Veitch,  
Wildflower vase



1<sup>st</sup> Decorated Bowl– Terry Scott



Best First Time Entrant–  
Heather Vivian Goblet Box

## National Woodskills Festival 2009 Kawerau, 11 to 13 September

By Dick Veitch

Despite having entered in this exhibition in the past, this year was the first time I had actually visited the event – but still I did not see the Festival, just the Exhibition. Just seeing that was well worth the drive, quite apart from the personal buzz as you will see below.

Without going into the Art/Craft definition I saw Kawerau as a wonderful array of the two. The detailed replica of a push mower (not judged a winner) was Craftsmanship of the best order and some of the “Off the Wall” entries were Art at the “I don’t understand it” end of the scale.

They don’t have a best of show award at Kawerau and one would be hard pushed to select between the first place-getters of each section but when you add a little knowledge about the maker, a great award should go to 84 year old Megan Godfrey for her Pohutukawa and Kauri First place in Carving/Sculpture. I was also impressed by the

creative thoughts behind Jane Allnatt’s Kiwi Black.

My view of the woodturning this year is certainly biased. But, once again, the judges commented that when a decoration is being added it needed to be done as part of the design and with perfection. Thus the simpler forms can be finished well and win. I just wish that more woodturners who make wonderful items would get their entries to this exhibition.

The Winners List

#### Pinus Radiata

sponsored by Norske Skog  
1<sup>st</sup> Dick Veitch, A Tub  
2<sup>nd</sup> Josh Norris, Moondance  
3<sup>rd</sup> Dick Veitch, A Table Lamp



“A Tub”- Dick Veitch

#### Carving/Sculpture Open

sponsored by Norske Skog  
1<sup>st</sup> Megan Godfrey, Pohutukawa Kauri  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sandy Cunningham, Babes in the Wood  
3<sup>rd</sup> Jane Allnatt, Kiwi Black

## To Knight or not to Knight

About six years ago I managed to import a few mallee burls from over the ditch. Possibly a vanity item as the cost was rather prohibitive (as in a spanner in the works). A risk you take on ordering any burl is the supplier at the other end isn't a woodturner and you end up with a certain percentage that are what I call non turnable because of their odd shape or their mass is not in the right place to allow a foot or other means of holding the piece so it can be turned.

You can mount a burl on a flywheel of mdf and balance the work to enable the turning of one, two, or more, bowls in a piece. After a while you get to the stage where these become ho-hum, the boredom sets in and you wish to try



new things. How anyone can be a production turner is beyond me! Turning hundreds of items the same sure must dampen any creativeness you may have. I suppose if you have to feed an animal and if you choose to do so by turning that's fine. Me, I'd rather dig holes all day, at least each spade-full is different.

Having these burls sitting around has irked me for years, having them sitting behind my lathe to show off to woody mates who have visited has been fun but it was time to move on.

These burls you buy green by weight (The Aussie suppliers probably soak them in water before they weight them; just joking guys).

Leaving them for so long has caused another problem, not only are they dry but harder than rocks. I wonder sometimes if I should turn a piece and replace my grinding stone on the grinder with burl and then turn the stone which may be softer. If you have ever turned any mallee or goldfields burl you will know how hard it is.

When I was in America two years ago I picked up a couple of interesting wood carvers that fitted on my Mini-Arbotec

## Terry Scott road tests some King Arthur Tools



and the Proxon Mini Grinder I had. These are 50mm diameter, donut-shaped, spiky wheels that I now call hedgehogs. I found them excellent for forming and shaping feet on bowls. Unlike a few other cutters on the market these won't run or grab the work and this enables the Arbotec to be used one-handed. These were a multi-use acquisition to my tool stable, now available in New Zealand from the vendors of King Arthur's Tools (KAT), Steeltoolz Ltd..

Because of the spaced alignment of the spikes they don't seem to clog, if they do I just run them against a wire brush or, as they are tungsten carbide on steel, they will withstand the heat of a gas torch which will soon cook out the likes of kauri gum. The King Arthur range has these as huge 100mm wheels, known as "Galahads" (flat and round profile) and, in a flat profile only, in the 50mm size, known as "Merlins"



As a woodturner I always felt I had to mount a piece on the lathe even if it was as a holder for carving but soon learnt this was a fruitless operation as the cutters soon make fast work of getting rid of any material.

Many of the cutters I had seemed to pull chips out of the burl especially on end grain. The KAT hedgehog cutters eradicated this problem. Often with sanding being able to start at 240 or even 320 grit.

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At the recent Treeworkx open day I was asked to bring along a bit of wood and use the range of King Arthur's tools. How could I refuse?

Another KAT tool, the "Lancelot", is a 100mm dia chain cutting blade fitted to a regular angle grinder. These have either 14 or 22 toothed chainsaw chains adapted to fit both 16 and 22mm drives on your grinder. Because of the high number of teeth I found they didn't seem to dull off like a conventional cutter as more teeth were doing the work. Spinning at 10,000rpm they move a lot of material fast. Easy to sharpen with a conventional chainsaw file. The smaller chainsaw equipped wheel, at 89 mm dia is the "SQUIRE" range - they too remove wood very fast - available with either 14 or 18 teeth.

When I am sharpening a conventional chainsaw chain it is common for me to over sharpen one side causing the saw to cut in a curve. Even I have been able to touch these Lancelot's up so they still cut.

I could rave on about the attributes of this range for ever but so you don't get bored I suggest you go to [www.katools.com](http://www.katools.com) and have a look for yourself. Be aware though, like those attending at Treeworkx, you will be tempted to add a few if not all of this range to your kit. With the 100mm cutters now added to my carving kit I sure came away with a real toolaholic fix.

The New Zealand Distributor is Gary Steel who some will have recently met at Participation 2009 and discovered him to be a really nice guy.

Gary can be contacted at [steelgi@hotmail.com](mailto:steelgi@hotmail.com) or visit him on the web at [www.katools.co.nz](http://www.katools.co.nz), phone 06 7510114.

I would recommend that you get a Mini-Arbortec or similar attachment with a grinder with 540 watts or more to go along with your Merlin cutters. I found the mini grinder at

100w to be underpowered, ok for light work or short bursts.

Well to-knight, I may just do some carving.

Cheers  
Terry



## Club Night Action

2 September

### John Whitmore and Bernie Hawkins

By Brian Hedge

The first thing I noticed before this demonstration commenced was that Dick couldn't find a foot rest on the lathe where he normally does because the lathe was raised by 150mm to accommodate the John Whitmore height!

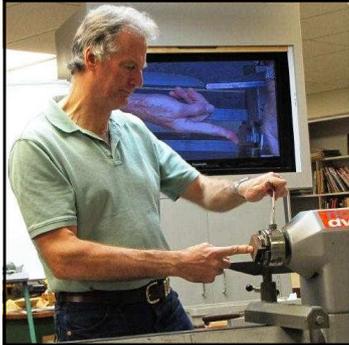
John tabled about 10 examples of different bowls with contrasting feet and the general consensus was that light bowl wood and a darker foot was best. One of the most striking was the Norfolk Island pine bowl with 4 darker branch knots near the bottom which were a colour match with the foot of Pohutukawa.

John ran through the bowls and the features and advantages of using a contrasting foot and these included;

- Visual impact is heightened by the colour contrast
- Where the turned timber is weak, for example a burr, the added foot can provide greater strength for a chuck bite (enhancing safety)
- Can liven up even a bland wood blank with the addition of a contrasting foot
- On a piece since given away, John used Swamp Puriri as a foot to contrast on a regular Puriri bowl. So ensuring harmony with contrast
- Maximises what you can produce from any given piece of wood as you do not have to allow for a foot from within the main blank
- Adds design capacity for 'lift' on an otherwise too shallow blank
- Using bowl saver blanks you can add a foot while maintaining the original external profile
- Using an added foot with extra length enables you to finish both inside and outside on the one mounting, ensuring concentricity
- A longer spigot allows a firmer grip by means of spigot-style jaws
- An end grain or side grain foot can be used to suit the piece characteristics
- Allows you to use small pieces of interesting wood which might otherwise be wasted.

John then proceeded with a demonstration stressing that the wood must be dry for the glue to hold. Critical design points are firstly that the joint must be crisp and secondly that the contrasting foot is integral to the design – not looking as if it has been whacked on as an afterthought. He displayed examples included feet of Jarrah, Pohutukawa, Mahogany and Tasmanian Blackwood.

The demonstration showed a Kwila foot being grafted onto a wet-turned Burr Eucalypt bowl that had distorted in the drying process. Surfaces to be joined must be made per-



fectly flat using a method originally demonstrated at an SAWG seminar by Granville Haworth.

John started with a square piece of side grain Kwila for the spigot held in 50mm jaws, cut a dimple at centre, used a home made gauge to mark the spigot diameter, then turned a 6mm long spigot with chuck bite. This was reversed into the same jaws such that another spigot was made on the back. The face of the second spigot was trued with a bowl gouge with a slight concavity across the middle of approx 0.5mm depth and 40% of diameter.

Using 60g sandpaper applied with double sided tape to a piece of square section extruded aluminium tube 450mm long, he lightly hand sanded across the base of the spigot at 1200rpm, checking for flatness across the rim with a steel ruler. Once satisfied, he cut some grooves for increased glue key in the concavity and gave another light sand with 100 grit to take off any feathering.

John then turned to the bowl blank and used long reach jaws on an internal dovetail recess to mount it on the lathe. He prepared the base using the same technique. At this stage it pays to ensure that there is enough thickness in the bottom of the bowl to give a margin for error in the final shaping. A worthwhile suggestion was made that the sanding block could be rested on the tool rest to add stability when sanding. Another suggestion was to use sandpaper on a faceplate in the tailstock to flatten the base in preference to hand sanding (this might suit a mass-production technique).

After checking the alignment of the head stock and tail stock with a double ended morse taper, John liberally applied white PVA glue to both mating surfaces using disposable wooden chopsticks.

The bowl on it's chuck was re-attached to the headstock and the Kwila foot in it's chuck mounted into the tailstock via a morse taper adaptor. The mating surfaces were brought together and the tailstock quill gently tightened while slowly rotating the head stock by hand to squeeze out excess glue and air bubbles. When movement becomes difficult then it is tight enough. If grain alignment is appropriate, the time to remember that is as the resistance to rotation becomes greater. If an adaptor is not available, remove the false foot from it's chuck and use the tailstock live centre in the dimple to align the work – in this version locking the head stock and rotating the foot, instead.

Compression of the glue joint can be off the lathe eg in a vice or on a bench drill. In this case, alignment of the two parts is helped by fitting a location pin into the centres. Pins can easily be made from wooden kebab skewers. It is safest to leave the assembly overnight to fully set before final shaping and finishing.

Bernie Hawkins described his adventures in adding laminates to 2 small vases, the highs and quite a few lows and the knowledge gained by the experience. He remains undaunted, in fact hooked and will apply his experience to some further projects. He took us through the process and the equipment he used. There were many helpful sugges-

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tions as to alternative tools/ methods that could be used which might be easier all gracefully received by Bernie.



Some key knowledge gained and issues overcome (or not):

- Make sure the wood is trued and a centre line drawn before commencing your pencil outlines
- Used the band saw to do just one cut lengthways for the vertical insert ( suggestion that a bench saw may be easier) Make the cut the same width that the insert is to be
- Macrocarpa was used as the base and inserts were Tasi Blackwood & oak
- If laminates are on an angle it is difficult to keep them straight/in the right position
- After making the cuts Bernie put the cut sections carefully aside and then reassembled them and tied them back as a whole
- Inserting the laminates- the centre one was clamped but the angled ones were done with tacky glue and hand pressure.

- When making cuts be careful to be consistent in cutting on the same side of the line
- When turning leave both ends square
- When the 2 timbers used are of different hardness sanding can be difficult- a suggestion here was to use sanding sealer to harden up the softer wood.



It would be a fascinating to have a re-run of this demo when Bernie has done another 4 projects to see what techniques he changes.

### 16 September Routers and Router Jigs- David Dernie

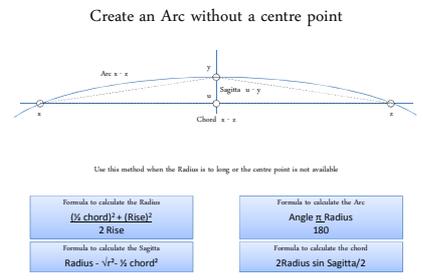
“Wonderful”, “really interesting and well presented”, “I am going straight home to make that” (speaking of a long-worth chuck David demonstrated) were just some of the comments I heard after David’s very polished and well prepared presentation on routers.

You can always tell a presentation that is exceptionally well received by the SAWG audience when the attendees don’t start fidgeting at the scheduled close time of 9pm and they hang around talking to the presenter until “time” is called (in fairness to David, he did get to start late due to the preceding general business and show & tell which took longer than scheduled).

David had prepared a powerpoint presentation to support the presentation he gave and covered a range of aspects associated with routers and their use, as well as speaking to points on jigs, bits and many associated aspects of router use.

If the quality of Davids jigs and presentation are any guide, I am confident that David is a very proficient tradesman– for myself, I tend to view the jig as a necessary evil; spending as little time as possible fabricating. David, on the other hand, obviously takes pride not only in his finished product (the destination) but equally the journey.

As well as discussing the types and features of routers and bits/ cutters, David also addressed feed directions both in router tables as well as freehand routing and then went on demonstrate constructing ellipses and then to talk of “sagitta”, and how to create arcs without a the need for a centre point (above).



David was ably supported in his presentation by the local representative from Festool who had an extensive range of quality Festool routers and other power tools.

Congratulations David on a great presentation and we look forward to seeing you at SAWG again in the near future.

### 23 September “The Bush Block”- Ross and Heather Vivian

Reported by Bill Hartley

At our club night on 23 September, guild members were entertained by an interesting and amusing talk from Ross and Heather Vivian. At the conclusion of their presentation, some of the guild members might be forgiven for thinking that they have the ideal lifestyle.

Ross and Heather own a 1500 acre property inland from Stratford; half of which is still in the original native bush. Ross described how they worked with the Ministry of Forestry after they purchased the property to establish a



sustainable forest harvest plan and they now supply timber such as Rimu, Miro, Tawa, Rewarewa, Rata and White Pine to all parts of New Zealand. Under the stringent terms of the sustainable forest harvest plan the volume of native timber they can harvest each year is limited, and for every tree they cut down they plant another four. There’s a ready market for their timber (for example, much of their Rimu is made into furniture). Their business takes them all over New Zealand which has allowed them to meet and become friends with a large number of people.



(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

They work together in the bush; felling, milling and recovering the timber and it looks to be hard, and at times dangerous work - from the bulldozing of tracks in the bush, milling the 800+ year old trees on site through to the loading and unloading of the helicopter during recovery operations. As the nearest road can be 10km away, there's not a lot of room for error.

Accordingly, Ross has developed and modified a lot of his equipment to suit the local bush conditions and the challenges that the milling and recovery of the timber present. All are examples of kiwi #8 wire innovation and ingenuity at its best.

After a hard day's work in the bush, Ross and Heather re-

lax in their bush-bach on the property where they can hand feed some of local wild deer and pigs who have become quite tame.

Ross concluded by describing his introduction into wood sculpture through Heather's involvement in woodturning. He went on to explain his techniques for making his sculptures; starting with the rough-shaping on the band saw, the refinement of the shape with powered carving tools and then completion using powered sanders and hand-sanding. Putting theory into action, he then proceeded to carve a wooden mug using the techniques and tooling he had spoken about and presented it to Terry Scott.

It's a partnership and business that clearly both Heather and Ross get a lot of enjoyment from. Thanks for sharing it with us.

(Continued from page 5)

## National Woodskills Festival (Cont'd)

- HC Jack Redman, Waka Taua and six Paddles
- HC George Cross, Heart of New Zealand
- HC Roger Dean, The Tale of Mr Todd
- HC Andrew Deadman, Antiquity
- HC Sandy Cunningham, Old Sea Dog

### Woodturning – Open Traditional

sponsored by Kawerau District Council

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ken Thomas, Eucalyptus Burl Platter
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Dick Veitch, Oak Bin
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Terry Scott, Wings
- HC Barry Blamey, Bits & Pieces
- HC Tom Fleming, Crazy Paving
- HC Roger Mabey, Classic Deco



"Oak Bin"- Dick Veitch

### Woodturning – Open Artistic

sponsored by Kawerau District Council

- 1<sup>st</sup> Dick Veitch, Koala Scratching
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Terry Scott, Aged Wings 3
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Ken Newton, Thin Wall Bowl
- HC Robbie Graham, Balance
- HC Albie Hall, Container



"Koala Scratching"- Dick

### Furniture

sponsored by Kawerau District Council

- 1<sup>st</sup> Adam Webb, Side Table
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam Webb, Chair
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tony Clark, Chair
- HC Mark Gilbert, What Lies Within

- Marquetry/Intarsia**
- sponsored by Kawerau Enterprise Agency
- 1<sup>st</sup> Jacob von Holzen, View from the Kissing Gates
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Des Kendrick, A Feeding Kea
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Jacob von Holzen, Dancing with the Stars

- Models, Toys, Replicas**
- sponsored by AIE

- 1<sup>st</sup> Des Kendrick, Dress Chariot
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Des Kendrick, Tour-de-Country
- HC Ken Newton, Yesterday

- College Age – Woodturning**
- sponsored by Kawerau New World
- 1<sup>st</sup> Luke Crowsen, Fern Bowl



"Fern Bowl"- Luke Crowsen

- College Age – Miscellaneous**
- sponsored by Kawerau New World
- 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Kilsby, Hall Table
- HC Candice Lillington, Bookcase
- HC Rupert Paterson, Krenov Inspired Table
- HC Angus Duncan, Morris Chair

- Best Local Entry**
- Sandy Cunningham, Babes in the Wood

- Most Deserving: Lily Stubbs Memorial**
- Huub Maas, Time



"Container"- Albie Hall



"Balance"- Robbie Graham

*(Continued from page 1)*  
 ing in the back of my ute, on the lawn, under the house, every where. One struggles to understand how, despite an increasing pile of shavings that the stocks of wood do not diminish proportionately. I guess that some one has written a thesis on this but I have yet to find and study it.

Now I presume that most people when they take up something like this, join a club first and get some sort of help, but living 50 odd K out of town (which didn't have a club anyway) ruled out that option so my learning was pretty much, read a book and search the internet.

OK now I'm back on track as this is where Terry came in, as well as buying the book I'd told him where why what and sent a few pics of stuff I'd made, and he suggested I get my self up to the "participation" weekend.

To be honest I didn't know what to expect and was in fact a tad apprehensive. I'm comfortable in my own workshop but walking into a strange environment with a bunch of strangers is another matter. Still, I figured if a man can jump on a strange horse in front of a large crowd and ride it, he could certainly dig his spurs into a lesser beast.

Well I need not have worried, I couldn't have met a friendlier, helpful bunch of folk. I had come up not really knowing what I should bring or would need so I was short of lots of odds n ends, but somewhere along the line someone would lend, give, help or generally show and that was much appreciated.

For me the weekend was more about trying to look and see how and what others did so I confess I didn't really turn much but I certainly picked up on a lot. It was amazing to see what some people are doing, even more amazing, just how quick they can whip things out. I wouldn't know where to begin in trying to describe all the things I saw and picked up on but I could easily have spent the whole three days just watching but I would like to thank Terry and Dick



for convincing me to have a crack at the vase I turned out. I have since turned out 2 more similar and it was a good way to get the feel of my new boring/hollowing tool. I must also extend thanks to all the others who lent me bits and pieces, or even just shared thoughts and ideas.

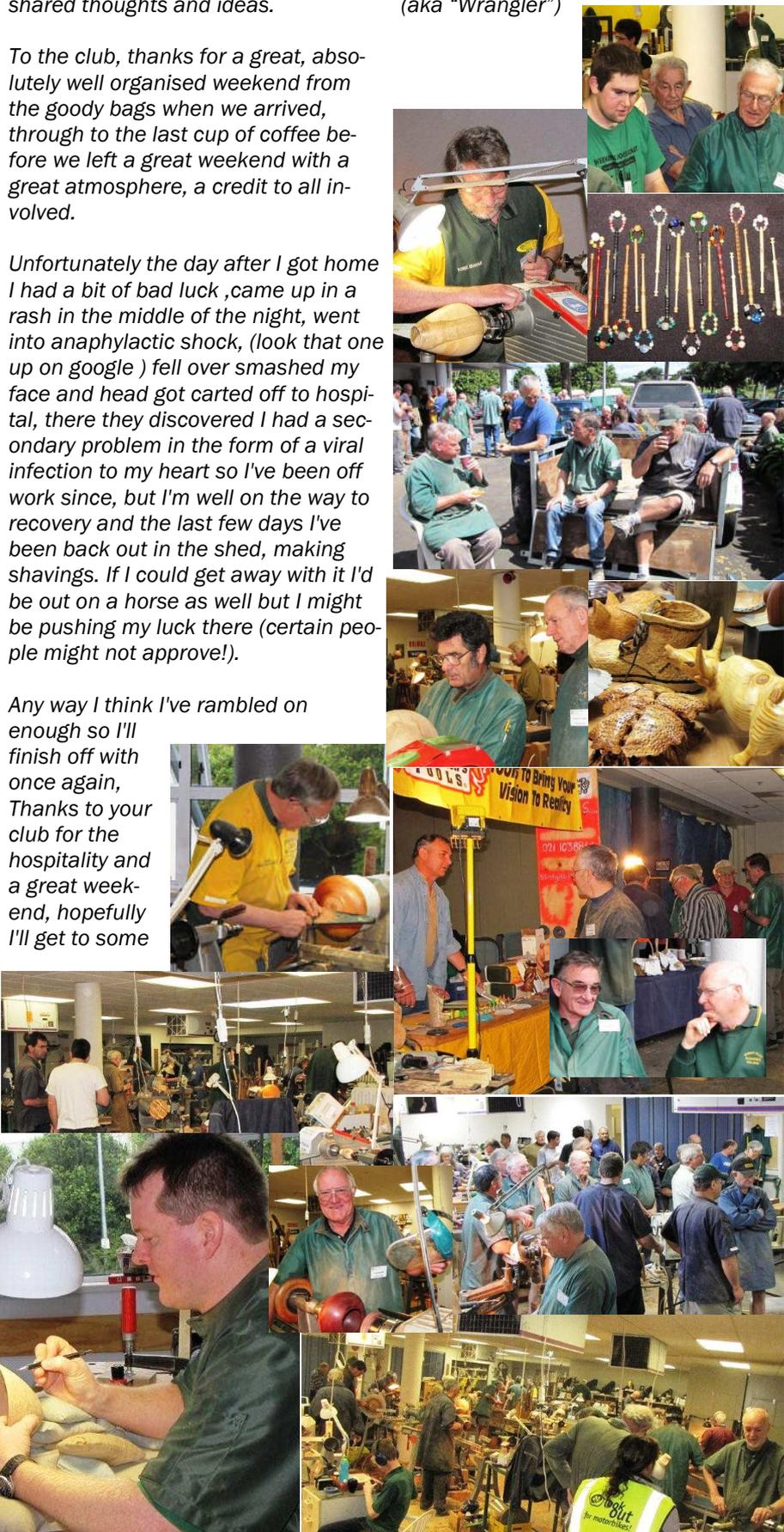
To the club, thanks for a great, absolutely well organised weekend from the goody bags when we arrived, through to the last cup of coffee before we left a great weekend with a great atmosphere, a credit to all involved.

Unfortunately the day after I got home I had a bit of bad luck, came up in a rash in the middle of the night, went into anaphylactic shock, (look that one up on google) fell over smashed my face and head got carted off to hospital, there they discovered I had a secondary problem in the form of a viral infection to my heart so I've been off work since, but I'm well on the way to recovery and the last few days I've been back out in the shed, making shavings. If I could get away with it I'd be out on a horse as well but I might be pushing my luck there (certain people might not approve!).

Anyway I think I've rambled on enough so I'll finish off with once again, Thanks to your club for the hospitality and a great weekend, hopefully I'll get to some

more, I know I'll join the national body and I hear there's an informal group started up down this way that I might get along to now and then.

Regards  
 Colin Parkinson  
 (aka "Wrangler")



# Phillip Island Turnaround 2009

By Warwick Day

Phillip Island is located about two hours to the south east of Melbourne. It is known for Penguin spotting and a world class motor racing circuit. It is one of Melbourne's playgrounds with many holiday homes. Each year Bruce and Caroline Talbot arrange in early September a turning weekend at the Christian camp located at the south end of the island.



The weekend was scheduled to start at 1.00 pm on the Friday however by 12.30 more than 20 cars and trailers from all over Victoria and New South Wales were lined up outside of the gate and the local police were called to find out what the congestion was all about. The gates were opened and by 2.00 pm 74 lathes were setup in the gymnasium and turning was well underway. Of interest was that there were very few big lathes. Most were midi lathes with names such as Vicmarc, Delta, Technatool and Woodfast. The yellow Woodfast lathes appeared to be the preferred new lathe to purchase.

While there was no specific theme for the weekend pens, bowls and boxes appeared to be the item of choice. The Australian wood is amazing. Bull Oak, Red Gum, Camphor, Sassafras, Black Olive, Silky Oak and Huron Pine were just some of the woods available for purchase.



Jim Carroll from Carroll's Woodturning Supplies was on site with a range of turning tools, steb centres, pepper mills and many other items which are absolutely necessary for any self respecting wood



turner to own but never use.

This year Graeme Mackay and I were the sole representatives from New Zealand. We took our gouges, mini roly, callipers and 15 kgs of other important items. On arrival we were both given a midi lathe and proceeded to turn as much Australian wood which we could get our hands on. From the Friday to the end of play on the Sunday we did not leave the site. We turned until 12.00 pm Friday night and started again at 7.00 am on Saturday and continued until 11.00 pm. Sunday was a bit of a disappointment as we started turning at 7.00 am but everyone started packing up after breakfast and by lunch time the gymnasium was completely empty and clean.

During our weekend, Graeme and I did our best to pump cash into the local economy. Red Gum, Bull Oak, Purple Juniper and Sassafras were just some of the types of wood seen being squirreled away in our bags. Thanks to our contribution, Jim Carol is also able to feed his family for the next 6 months. I must confess I know at least one person who was not very happy when all of the wood and bits of metal equalled two peoples return flight baggage allowance. Thankfully, Qantas allowed us to bring our clothes back as carry on baggage.

Apart from wood turning, eating played an important part of the weekend. Food appeared to be served continually from breakfast at 8 am to supper at 9 pm. Because we turned and ate together it was easy to make new friends and much of the weekend was spent standing around the coffee machine talking and eating the latest items to be delivered from the kitchen. If you are planning to go to Melbourne next year in September, it is well worth trying to schedule Turnaround 2010 into your travel plans.



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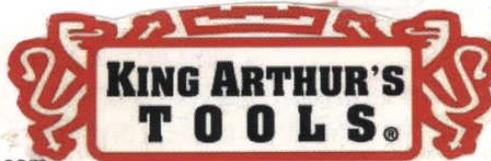
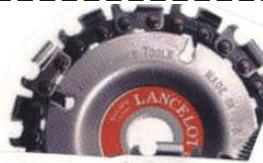
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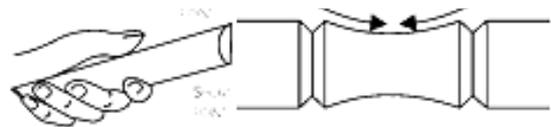
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