The fruit of many hours work felling, blocking, drying, selecting, actually “turning”, sanding, polishing, embellishing, not to mention lots of thought, some heartache and probably a fair share of blood sweat and tears came to fruition at our annual SAWG Woodturning Sale held in December.

Commencing with the usual wine and cheese on opening night to invited guests, this year saw a change of premises to Papakura High Street from Accent Point where it has been held for a number of years. The change of venue did not appear to put off customers who still managed to find us, many of whom had received personal invites by phone or mail drop.

Not usually one to be lost for words, sale organiser and President Dick Veitch uncharacteristically did not have much to say when I asked him for his thoughts on the sale. He did mutter something about “the second best sale ever” but did add that almost 60% of the offering sold (of the approx. 2200 items offered for sale) which is a great result. (Just joking: have you ever heard Dick lost for words? Dicks’ report appears later in this edition on page 5)

The customers I talked to were very impressed by the quality of the workmanship and the “good value” that the pieces represented, particularly when compared to prices in galleries etc. Many were return customers who were full of praise for the works.

The shop staff apparently were enjoying their sales roles despite some using skills self-admitted to be a bit rusty (or maybe even relatively untried!)- no doubt sharpened with some tried & true techniques from Les Arkwright Sivewright.

Once again, some learning’s to be taken on board which will be reflected no doubt in this coming years sale, both from an organisational perspective as well as from turners selling their wares.

Thanks of course go to all those many who organised, painted, lined, erected shelving and of course staffed the shop to make it another SAWG success.
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298 5775

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- Don Wood  
292 4205

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

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**Newsletter contributions:**
editor@sawg.org.nz

**Credits and kudos this month:**
- Lindsay Amies  
- Alan Day  
- Mac Duane  
- Ross Johnson (Photos)  
- Terry Scott  
- Dick Veitch

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**Coming Up...**

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 display and discuss their work.

For those wishing to make use of the machinery, do some shopping, check out our library, get some 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.

**SAWG Term 1 2011**

- **2 February** First Night of Term – term project is a 3 legged stool with Dick Veitch
- **9 February** Resin Inlays with Pepi Waite
- **12 February** Saturday Working Bee
- **16 February** 3 Legged Plant Stand with Bob Yandell
- **23 February** Guest Turner Malcolm Zander (NZ born, now living in Canada)
- **26 February** Fishys Open Day
- **2 March** Spindle Turning – Legs for stools, Wig Stands with Phread Thurston
- **9 March** Wednesday Working Bee (3pm)
- **9 March** Hands-On spindle turning
- **16 March** Pens with Bruce Wood and Michele Pointon
- **23 March** Habitat for Humanity
- **30 March** Platter Embellishment with John Whitmore
- **6 April** Natural Edge Bowl with Bruce Wood
- **9 April** Saturday Working Bee
- **13 April** Last night of term, judging of term project, Kaleidoscopes with Lee Rid-
- **16 April** Rolly Munro Demonstration

**Coming Events**

- **26 February** Turning Tools Open Day (SAWG)
- **5 March** Six Span Turn ‘a’ Round (South Otago Woodcraft)
- **11-13 March** Lake Taupo Woodturning Jamboree (Taupo)
- **26 March** Scrollsaw Workshop (Tauranga)
- **1-3 April** Waiora Turn Inn (Otago)
- **2-3 April** Guild of Woodworkers Symposium (Wellington)
- **9 July** NAW AGM (Franklin)
- **23-25 Sept** SAWG Participation 2011

Regularly Updated Calendars of Events can always be viewed at [www.sawg.org.nz](http://www.sawg.org.nz) and [www.naw.org.nz](http://www.naw.org.nz) (including entry forms)

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**Macs Maxim of the Month**

“Don’t make the day shorter  
By getting up late”

-Mac Duane
AAW 25th Anniversary

The American Association of Woodturners celebrates its 25th year and preparations are well under way for their 25th Anniversary Symposium to be held in Saint Paul, Minnesota from June 24 to 26.

Having spent a few days in the Twin Cities (Saint Paul/Minneapolis) last year, I can highly recommend a visit. Partners can spend literally days at the Mall of America (the largest Mall in the world which features a totally enclosed theme park) as they shop to their hearts content while you enjoy catching up with woodies from points North, South, East and West. Full details at www.woodturner.org

New Days for Working Bees

To enable members with commitments on Saturday mornings, every second working bee is now on a Wednesday afternoon at 3pm. Next working bee is Saturday 12 February at 9am

More Woodturning Article

The article from Ross Vivian on his alternative use for an electric toothbrush published in the June issue of Turning Talk has been given a wider reading with it being published in Fred Holders’ online e-zine “More Woodturning”. Congratulations Ross. To subscribe, visit www.morewoodturning.net

Another “Big” Turner

Continuing in the “larger than normal” woodturnings, readers may be interested in viewing the pieces Virgil Leih turns. Virgil turns whole tree trunks into “large scale sculptures” from tree trunks discarded from urban forests, or rescued from landfill, wood chippers or power company burners.

Averaging 1 tonne each, imagine what he could have done with some of the Takanini kauri that ultimately got chipped!

Go to www.virgiltreeart.com for more.

SAWG Christmas Functions

Members and partners gathered on Saturday 18 December to celebrate Christmas and congratulate each other on another great SAWG year. Organised by Bob Yandell, this year’s Xmas function went very well. Terry Scott says of the event: “Many Members of the Guild and their partners scrubbed up (some better than others) to attend our annual break up which was held at Fisher house in Howick. It’s always great to be able to sit down over a few drinks in nice surroundings out side of guild activities and just get to know people better. If you didn’t attend you missed a great night. Unfortunately the food let the occasion down some due to the owners under catering and quality control. Their loss as we won’t be back… If you have any ideas were to go next year, let the committee know”

The last club night of the year saw the regular awards ceremony followed by nibbles and more talk. Great to see many partners along again.

Fishys Open Day

A regular fixture at our meetings and on our club calendar, Ian Fish of Turning Tools will be hosting another Open Day on 26 February at the Guild premises. A great opportunity to supplement your tool collection and Ian has some great demonstrations organised (Fred Irvine, Malcolm Zander (Canada)) to entertain when the wallet is empty as well as the usual instant gallery, silent auction (all proceeds to SAWG) and some extra-special pricing on 2 Teknatool DVR’s and 2 Nova 1624 lathes. See page 5 for more details and to register your interest. $15 for the day and registrations limited to 85.

Royal Easter Show Entries

Members might consider starting to think about their entries for the Royal Easter Show ‘cos with these things, entry close-off of 18 March will rapidly arrive. Categories you might consider entering are: Small Bowls, Large Bowls, Plain Bowls, Plates/Platters, Hollow Forms/Vases, Domestic Ware, Lidded Boxes, Ornamental, Woodcarving, Natural, Non-Competition Woodcraft. The show itself is 21-25 April.

Taupo Jamboree


Competitions include “Open Artistic”, “Traditional” and “Turned Box”. See the links above for more information or see ad on page 10.

(Continued on page 4)
Mystery Tool
Ok so what is it???

This is currently advertised on trademe at www.trademe.co.nz/Antiques-collectables/Tools/auction-351256655.htm so follow the link to find out what they are.

Bead Archaeology
For those who are developing an interest in beads/ bead-ing, the NZ Glass Bead Artists are holding an exhibition and workshops with artists presenting modern interpretations of ancient artifacts and techniques at the Artstation in Ponsonby starting 2 February until 19 February. See below for details.

TOKORUA (BILLIE-LOU) BACON
The Bacon family would like to thank you for the wonderful turnout after the sudden passing of my wife Tokorua (Billie).
We were astounded to see the Papakura Marae at times packed on the two days we were there, and to realise that the only reason most of those people were there was to return some of the love that she had given out during the six years she had been driving her bus.
Billie grew up as one of a family of 17 and had spent part of her childhood in a mud floored hut in a very poor part of the upper North.
She went on to present flowers to the Queen, captain a representative netball team, wait table on the Beatles, and win a radio talent quest.
After all that, we had thought that looking after me for more than 40 years and raising our two girls, her life must have become quite mundane, but your attendance showed otherwise and was very humbling.
Thank you all
Rest in Peace beautiful lady
Len Bacon, Julie-Anne, Kerry, and families

A BEGINNER’S GUIDE TO WOODTURNING
Original artwork and text by George Flavell

Now in its sixth edition with 58 pages of clear line drawings and text specifically aimed at the learner turner. Safety, tools, wood gathering, spindle work, bowls, hollow forms, and more.

Just $20.00, sent to the Guild Secretary.

Mini Lathes- FREE Loans
The Club has 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.
Christmas Sale Report

By Dick Veitch

With all that financial doom and gloom out there it is really nice to say that our sale was almost as good as any previous sale. Of the 2116 items offered for sale, 1208 were sold along with one Beginners Guide, three teething pegs, six bags of lollies, and one pen out of the “not-for-sale” vase on the counter. Add to that a far better level of shopkeeper skills than previous years resulting in fewer bookkeeping errors, and the final result is excellent.

Our main street location doubtless contributed to this. We always thought that Accent Point was pretty good but it looks like many more people came through the doors this year. Having to pay rent did change the balance of payments for participants, and may change it more next year.

Yes, we all want a sale next year and I guess we will follow the same pattern of checking out the available shop spaces in early November. Meanwhile potential participants can think about a few things.

The average price of the goods on offer has not changed much. We thought this year that bigger item prices may have lifted but we have no way to measure that. The data I do have relates only to the average value of all the work on offer and this has not kept up with inflation. I think members who offer bulk small items, which are quickly sold out, need to consider increasing the price of those items.

I would love to be able to make a list of what sold well and thus may be in demand next year. We saw spinning tops continue to be attractive, most lazy susans went, the spheres (popular last year) sold only some, and people continue to want to buy the raffle box. The first demand for an absentee was a salt pig, then a left-handed stirrer, and more small wooden games. So there are many more things that could be made.
Where: South Auckland Woodturners Clubrooms  
Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe, South Auckland

When: Saturday February 26th, 9.00am - 4.00pm

Bring:
• An enthusiastic money spending state of mood
• Cash, cheque book, Visa / MasterCard
• Lunch
• Exhibition piece
• Stuff for the auction
• Tools for the sharpening clinic
• Trailer to take home all your goodies.

What’s Happening?

Demonstrations
I’ve got Fred Irvine, Waikato Polytechnic tutor, and Malcolm Zander from Canada demonstrating. They’ll each do a demo of about one and a half hours. Two very different styles and interests.

Bring along your best piece of recent work. I’m keen to have an Instant Gallery of attendees’ work with a lucky number prize for entrants. Prize is a Turning Tools Ltd voucher for goods to the value of $100.

There’s going to be a Silent Auction – , Full proceeds to go to the South Auckland Club. Please bring along anything you’d like to donate for this fundraiser- tools, wood, books, magazines, food, preserves, safety gear, anything you think somebody else might like. Let’s make this a real boomer. Please think about this now, sort out what you’d like to contribute, bring it along on the club night of Feb 22 or on the Open Day Saturday 26.

Shops
Turning Tools Ltd will be there with a full range of Teknatool, Munro and Woodcut products. Probably even some specials.
I’ll have 2 DVR XP lathes and 2 Nova 1624 lathes at very, very special prices. Only available on the day.
Treeworkx will be there with tools, abrasives, turning blanks, finishing products.

Entry fee is only $15 for the whole day (Numbers are limited to 85- register now)

Registration Form
Send $15 to: Turning Tools Ltd
18c Roseberry Ave
Birkenhead 0626,
Auckland
Ph 09 4181312
Or email us at jfish@xtra.co.nz

Please register me for the Turning Tools Open Day Saturday Feb 26 2011

Name:………………………………………….
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I will pay by Visa / Mastercard
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Name on card

Or cheque enclosed
Wednesday 3 November  
**Presentation and Pricing for Christmas Sale**

Every year, leading into our Annual Christmas Sale, the dilemmas of pricing our work can occupy our thoughts for weeks beforehand. What is a fair price for each piece taking into account our time, actual costs of materials, electricity used, wear and tear on our tools and equipment, the costs of collecting wood, etc, etc?

On the other side of the dilemma is the market. What a customer will actually pay for a piece depends on many variables. Our market is located in Central Papakura and although this market has a long history, it is not an upmarket gallery, nor is it a Saturday morning craft market. Our customers come from a range of backgrounds, some with deep pockets, others with only a few bob to spend. Our customer profile is that of an older age group, many are retired. Last year our average sale price was $24 although averages in themselves are not particularly useful when it comes to valuing our work. A further twist to the dilemma is we shouldn’t undersell our work as this can undermine our colleagues, belittle us, and lead to a downgrading of our craft as a whole. And then there are to consider Airport prices, as well as imported wooden bowl prices (which may even be manufactured from New Zealand native timbers).

And so at our meeting on Wednesday 3 November Terry Scott assisted by Dick Veitch worked through these issues to give us some guidance for pricing our work this year. There were, not unexpectedly, very few clear certainties.

A chip’n’dip bowl will get $120-130, 80mm spheres $18-25, a pepperwood bowl from the display table $80.

Bowls- We have plenty of these to sell but often they aren’t good sellers. Terry suggested we line up our bowls from smallest to largest and price according, actually quite a good idea. Keep in mind also what often sells a bowl is the wood itself.

Our customers like to handle our pieces so make sure they aren’t sticky. Avoid sharp edges to our pieces even if it is only to prevent marking a colleague’s piece displayed next to yours! Think of adding “props” to your pieces so customers can see how they can be used-dried flowers in a vase, fruit in a bowl sort of thing.

Keep in mind price points e.g. $99 not $100.

And a final word, we can probably put our prices up a little this year although prices haven’t changed significantly over the years. This year our customers will have experienced a GST increase and as sellers our costs are higher this year. And take a punt especially if your piece has been crafted from a nice piece of wood

Our thanks to Terry and Dick for taking us through this challenging presentation.

---

Report from: Lindsay Amies (Slave Scribe)
hand while turning the wood off with the said skew! (Not for beginners) the first one he made wife Michelle said "It's too short, it will fall in the pot"! ha ha (anyone can fail at something, but failure is not continuing until you get it right)

The Scoop, Terry had a large square of wood 2 x 6 inches so for safety he puts the corners in the gaps between the 50mm jaws, and roughs it down to a round with a gouge, taking the corners of the end first, he needs to make a sphere shape on one end so he takes a pair of callipers to get the diameter, and marks it lengthways on the timber, marking the centre, forms the left and right hemispheres using a spindle gouge, then picks up a stainless steel tube with handle attached and offers it up to the spinning wood to almost complete the spherical shape, uses a skew to form and shape the handle end, and a small gouge to put a detail in, then parts it off,

To cut the scoop forms in half, you need to make a jig the same shape as the scoop, then make jam chuck to hollow it out, a hole may be drilled to the depth required, no more than 500 rpm please, the handle will look good if you can do simple Koru work pattern on it, Poker work machines are available at Carbatec, (And all Terry’s vehicles have their Land Sat Navigations tuned into Carbatec as default!) where one can buy Live Centres with cups to support the long thin handles, keep your eyes open for old Turning tools, which don’t have the Long & Strong handles, because they are very useful for turning small objects, inside and out.

The project sheets for Spoons & Scoops can be found on our web site www.sawg.org.nz

Thank you Terry for an enjoyable, informative demonstration

Report from: Alan Day

Wednesday 24 November

Lidded Boxes with Rex Haslip

SAWG is developing an association with the New Zealand arm of the international Beads of Courage program fronted by Lisa Jane Harvey, President of the NZ Glass Bead Artists through the Child Cancer Foundation.

Carole Knowles gave an introduction to the Beads of Courage program which marks each “milestone” for children being treated for cancer. As a milestone is reached, a bead is given to the child to add to the original string of beads given to them when they enter the program which spells out their name.

In the tragic circumstance of the treatments not being successful, a winged glass butterfly crafted by members of the Glass Bead Association is presented to the family. This winged butterfly will be presented in a lidded box supplied by SAWG members.

Full specifications for the lidded box are on the website www.sawg.org.nz and boxes should include the name of the turner, the type of wood and “SAWG”.

After Carole had concluded her introduction to the program (and the challenge being made to members to produce and donate one box per member per year), Rex Haslip gave his usual well prepared and delivered demonstration on making a lidded box suitable for the program.

Rex concluded with a joke:

A man is stopped by the police at midnight and asked where he is going.

The man replies “I am on my way to listen to a lecture about the effects of alcohol and drug abuse on the human body”

The policeman asks “Really? And who is going to be giving a lecture like that at this time of night?”

“My wife” comes the reply.
**Wednesday 15 December**

**Last Night of the Year**

The last night of the year kicked off with President Dick Veitch reviewing the highlights of the past year which included the Jacques Vesery demonstration, Fishys Open Day and the demonstrators to whom he extended his congratulations saying how well they had all performed.

Of mention was the continuing success of the Aoraki program (anyone else noticed how many new members from nearby clubs are joining so they too can do the Aoraki courses?) commenting that often, the instructors benefited from the instruction process as much as the students.

During the proceedings, **Terry Meekan** displayed an old bowl that had been returned to him as a “warranty claim”. Evidently, the finish on this turned bowl didn’t appreciate the value of cleanliness not surviving a number of years of hot soapy water washes. Visible on the base was the makers name: “T Scott”. Terry vaguely remembers the piece and thinks he turned it in his first year of turning (well, he would say that wouldn’t he– lets say, it had “character”). He has undertaken to honour the warranty claim but whether the customer wants it painted black or transformed into one of Terry’s more contemporary “finishes” is unclear!

Some of the Awards on the night:

- Most improved – **Colin Wise**
- Bowl – **John Smart**
- Most Show & Tell items – **Robert Smith**
- Life Members Award for Excellent Turning – **Keith Hastings**
- Most Dangerous Jig of the Year – **Warwick Day**

The formalities concluded with President-In-Waiting **Bob Yandall** acknowledging the stewardship and contribution of President **Dick Veitch** during his time with, and leading, the Guild and invited **Terry Scott** to say a few words.

Terry then proceeded to award Dick the **“Golden Chisel Award”**. Awarded only once previously (to **Mac Duane**), this award recognizes and acknowledges a member who has made and provided outstanding service to the Guild.

This award was universally applauded by the meeting – congratulations Dick!
We value the support of our Sponsors. Please use their services whenever possible.

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