

WESTURN NEWS

Issue: 144

10th April 2012

Western Sydney Woodturners Inc

Twin Gums Retreat, Corner Northcott Road and Diane Drive, Lalor Park

PO Box 4008, Lalor Park, NSW 2147

Web Site: www.westernsydneywoodturners.com

Guild Web Site: sydneywoodturners.com.au

President: Ken Vodden

Vice-presidents: John Lane and Paul de Belle

Treasurer: Paul Collins

Grants Officer & Membership Secretary: Raymond Saich

Secretary & Public Officer: Ron Devine

Welfare Officer: Graham Murray (0412 913 508)
If you know that any member or their partner is not well, give Graham a call and he'll organise a card to be sent.

Catering Officer: Wendy Healy

Library: Gary Hansell

Stores, Equipment & Maintenance:
Alan Phelps, Mannie Farrugia and Dave Matthews.

Please let them know if you find any problems with any of the machinery in the hall.

Editor: David Burns 98622732
ziggyzer000@hotmail.com

Trainer: Bob 'Santa' Hodge

Western Sydney Woodturners Programme 2011

Workshops: Every **Monday** 8.30am—3.00pm \$5
Tuesday from 8.30am, \$5
Wednesday from 8.30am \$5
Thursday from 8.30am, \$5
Friday Night from 7.00pm. \$3

Maxidays: Third Sunday every month from 9.30am.
There is usually a demonstration by a guest turner then Show & Tell. Lunch is provided. Cost \$6.

Club Meeting: The club meeting is held on the second Tuesday of the month starting at 7.00pm at Twin Gums. All members are welcome to attend.

Coming Events:

Tuesday 13th March
Sunday 18th March
Saturday 24th March

Club Meeting
Club Swap Meet
Dutch Club

Presidents Report

I hope all our members had a safe and happy Easter.

This time last month, we had just started the Sewing and Craft Show. What a great four days that turned out to be for our club. There is more to follow later in the newsletter.

Easter is a great time of year. Blue skies, warm, sunny days and cool evenings. That is for most of us. Please give a thought to all those children in hospital doing it a little tough at the moment. The children's Ward at Mt Druitt is where we are headed on Good Friday. You good members have made more charity bowls for us to take there filled with Easter eggs/chocolate. There will be a report in the next newsletter with full details.

I must mention that the students from Seven Hills High School had their last week with us. I think we all agree, they have been a very good group of young people and we wish them every success for the future. To all the mentors who have taken part this term, a big thankyou as I know, it does take up a lot of your time. If you wish to mentor in term three let us know so arrangements can be made.

I must congratulate Ray Smith on entering the Blacktown and Castle Hill Shows. Winning the Blacktown show and Third at Castle Hill and I believe the results for the Royal Easter Show are still to come. Robyn Mahoney also entered the Royal so best of luck guys.

It is always good to see an overseas visitor in the club. Ben de Lange spent the day with us last Thursday. He was from the Overberg Woodturners Association in South Africa. We exchanged ideas and he was taken to Timberbits as he is another of those pen turners. Many thanks to those members who helped in entertaining him. There is an open invitation for anyone wishing to visit his club in South Africa.

The new recording system is being installed so we hope this will relieve the frustrations usually experienced on Maxi Days and hope it will be up and running for the highlight of the year. **Guilio Marcolongo's** workshop and demo on April 20th and 21st. We are collecting the money for this so when you see the money man (Paul) please pay him. There is still a couple of places available for the workshop so don't miss out.

We are still asking for helpers for Trend's Open Day on the 21st April. If you can spare a couple of hours on the Saturday it would be greatly appreciated.

More helpers make lighter work - Ken

Western Sydney Woodturners Club Report

Well we have been very busy over the last few months. What with doing BBQs at Bunnings, the Craft Show at Rosehill ,a couple of open days at Trend timbers. We had our Open Day, Linwood house, Wisteria fete and a couple of other demos so we are busy.

We have had a couple of visits from other clubs which we intend to reciprocate.

The immediate future looks similar. We have several visiting demonstrators coming on Sundays including Julio Marcolongo. We will be visiting the Blue mountains, there is a couple of open days at Trend, the Dutch Club annual open days plus St Bartholomew's historic church fete, and a couple more functions to attend.

We still have our monthly club meetings and our bank balance is the best it's ever been.

We still have the Breed program going where we mentor and teach school children.

Our classes are still going, teaching from beginners up to advanced turning plus sharpening, wood carving and chainsaw work. Through all these activities we have managed to raise a substantial amount of money for the Children's Ward at Mt Druitt Hospital.

We are still upgrading and replacing our machines. We recently purchased 6 Woodfast midi lathes to replace some of our older smaller lathes. We have set up a Pen making area with two small lathes and a drill press and other ancillary items to make Pens, this appears to be a success. We recently replaced all our ceiling fans. Most were not working. We are continuously upgrading our workshop.

With our large shipping container out the back. We are currently modifying this to give more bench space for general woodworking. We have started to install a dust exhaust system. This may take some time.

Our shop is going well. We are continually adding new stock for the benefit of the members.

Our Charity bowls project continues to roll on. We sold a lot of these at the Craft show. This is a good money spinner for charity. Our library is continually expanding and we have a lot of DVDs and Videos.

Our show and tell is getting bigger and better with the standard of our work fairly high and improving all the time. A couple of our guys have been winning prizes with their work at various shows.

We welcome visitors. Why not come along one day during the week we are open Mon ,Tues, Wed & Thurs and Friday nights. Bring your tools along and you can turn a couple of charity bowls for us . We will supply all the

materials you need and you will probably make some new friends.

Well that's all for now. So happy Turning - Alan Phelps

NEW MEMBERS

Ray Lucas	Peter Lloyd
Maxwell Tankard	John Clark
Abby-Rose Cowell	Bill Manners

Welcome to all our new members this month. We hope your stay is both long and rewarding.



Thanks to Michelle Rowland MP, Member for Greenway for her support which includes the printing of this newsletter.

ITEMS FOR SALE

CLUB SHIRTS	BADGES
PEPPER GRINDERS	SALT GRINDERS
SAND PAPER	PEN KITS
PEN CASES	PEN PARTS
LETTER OPENERS	FRICTION POLISH
TRIPLE "P"	POLISH CLOTHS
TIMBER SEALER	PERFUME APPLICATOR
WOOD (many varieties)	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Eric Aldinger	Peter Bland
Ron Devine	Ross Engall
Kevin Hilton	John Lane
Robyn Mahoney	Greg Maloney
Lindsay McEwan	Jacqui Sharp

Happy birthday to all, we hope that you had a great day with many more to come.



I am always on the look out for new articles and would appreciate any contributions from members - please remember that this is your newsletter! - editor

Wood Finishing - Series 1

This is the first of a series I intend to write.

What prompted this is we have an ongoing project making bowls which we sell for charity. We recycle timber given to us from a joinery shop. Its only 18mm thick so we laminate and glue this into square blocks. This wood is difficult to turn sand and polish because of its dry porous grain. It's generally referred to as Pacific maple but it comprises of about 6 different species.

We have developed a process where you can turn sand and finish in one operation on the lathe.

Notwithstanding the above, all these finishes I am going to describe can be used on any timber, but they were especially developed for a difficult to finish wood.

The finishing materials are made by us and sold cheaply by our shop. They are;

Triple P Wax Polish

Which is a combination of four waxes_and a fine cutting compound_all combined together into a wax polish

Friction Polish

This is in liquid form, based on Shellac and wax plus a liquid Melamine. This is a modern version of the old French polish with the addition of a hardener

All these materials can be purchased from woodturning suppliers under various trade names.

Method

Firstly turn a bowl. Note, most of the bowls we turn are small, under 150mm dia. Now this is important. The job has to be sanded up to a fine finish otherwise the polish does not work very well. Sand to at least 400g but preferably finer up to 1500g. I power sand this is quicker and gives a scratch free finish. This sanding can be done by hand, no problem, but it takes longer and it's hard to keep the scratches out.

Next Step

We use the Triple P wax first. Now using a small piece of rag or kitchen paper and the lathe stationery, apply the wax liberally, rubbing it well in, especially the end grain. Now start the lathe up keeping the speed down so the wax does not get thrown off. Apply the already waxed section of the cloth and with medium pressure work the wax into the grain. The wax will melt with the friction, and with the cutting compound this will polish the timber and partially fill the grain. With a clean cloth remove all the surplus wax and finally polish.

Now you can use this as a final finish if you wish. But wax is not very durable on its own.

Final Step, Friction Polish

Again using a small piece of rag or kitchen paper and the lathe stationery apply a fairly thin even coat. Then start the lathe on a medium or high speed. Add some extra polish to the wet section of the rag and bring the

wet part in contact with the job and apply medium pressure. This will generate friction and heat which will melt and distribute the polish which will amalgamate into the wood. Polish until the job comes up to a high shine. Be careful not to overheat the polish it may go streaky and burn. You can give it several thin coats but be careful not to make it too thick it can go a bit soft and gluggy. Finish with a clean cloth just to give a final clean up and shine. You can now handle the bowl quite safely, it's hard enough, but it takes a couple of weeks to fully harden. If you feel that it's too glossy cut it back with OOOO steel wool to what you want.

Note: Wear goggles over your glasses. This stuff is hard to get off once it sets

In my second series we will take this a step further by using some lacquer based sanding sealer.
Alan Phelps

BREED Program

Another school term of ten weeks in the program has been completed with seven students from Seven Hills High School participating. These students with their Mentors showed considerable amount of interest which is reflected in the quality and quantity of work they produced. It is very evident the Mentors ability to communicate is effective in as far as they were completing one project each week which kept interest and enthusiasm ongoing.



Monday - Abby and Bob

As we all know we had another young lady student in this group who not only showed enormous amount of enthusiasm over the last ten weeks but enjoyed herself so much she has become a member of the club and says she can't wait for the school holidays so she can spend more time following up what she accomplish over that time with her Mentor.

It is always encouraging when the students ask if they can keep coming back and that other students are putting their names on the waiting list hoping to be selected for our next session which is the third school term.

To the Mentors on behalf of the members of the club, Principal, Careers Advisor and Staff of Seven Hills High School a very sincere thank you for your help

and patience over the last ten weeks, I am sure you find it as I have to be very rewarding when a project is completed and how happy the students are when they leave knowing they are going to show it to all of their friends and family.



Tuesday - Luke and Ethan with Hanns and Lawrence

To the members of the club I thank you for the respect you gave the students and the occasional advice and assistance you gave so freely and willingly making it a welcoming friendly atmosphere to work in.



Wednesday - Rhys and Ron

As you are aware we do this program for first and third term of the school year and we are restricted the number of students we can take to the number of mentees



Thursday - Manny, James, Steve, Tim, Blake and Eddy

we have available at the time, if you feel you would like to participate in the program let us know as we have been advised there are a considerable number of students showing interest for third term. Remember it is one day a week for only ten weeks with very rewarding outcomes. - Eddie

Linwood House

Sunday 11 Mar 2012

Well after all the rain Sunday was a welcome change. A beautiful warm sunny day.

We started around 11AM. There were four of us Liam Healey, Dave Mathews, John Lane and myself.

It was a somewhat quiet day with not a lot of people. So we did some demonstrating and a lot of talking amongst ourselves. Being so quiet we were able to have a good look around the other stalls and exhibitors. The Ford Car club exhibited some beautiful old Ford cars. There was a large Garage sale, Lapidary, Crafts, book sale and exhibitions of mainly oldie worldly things. They have a great tea room with the old style Devonshire Teas and the House itself is old and interesting. If anybody wants a good afternoon outing I recommend you go there.

Anyhow we sold a few charity bowls did some turning and we all agreed that we had a thoroughly pleasant day and I am looking forward to the next time.

Alan Phelps

The **CSIRO** has discovered the heaviest **element** yet known to science.

When catalysed with money, Governmentium becomes Administratium, an element that radiates just as much energy as Governmentium since it has half as many peons but twice as many morons. All of the money is consumed in the exchange, and no other byproducts are produced.

The new element is **Governmentium (Gv)**. It has one neutron, 25 assistant neutrons, 88 deputy neutrons and 198 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 312.

These 312 particles are held together by forces called morons, which are surrounded by vast quantities of lefton-like particles called peons.

Since Governmentium has no electrons or protons, it is inert. However, it can be detected, because it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A tiny amount of Governmentium can cause a reaction normally taking less than a second to take from four days to four years to complete.

Governmentium has a normal half-life of 2- 6 years. It does not decay but instead undergoes a reorganisation in which a portion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons exchange places.

In fact, Governmentium's mass will actually increase over time, since each reorganisation will cause more morons to become neutrons, forming isodopes.

This characteristic of moron promotion leads some scientists to believe that Governmentium is formed whenever morons reach a critical concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as critical morass.

Tool Sale & Swap Day Sunday Mar18 2012

Well the weather had cleared since all the rain. The day started out OK although I felt that there could have been more people turn up. Nevertheless the whole day was a reasonable success. I was pleasantly surprised with the amount of things for sale plus the variety. There was all sorts of old woodworking tools, small bits and pieces such as drills, chisels, screwdrivers and some engineering tools and a lot of bric-a-brak relating to woodwork and woodturning generally. Also there was some electric tools ranging up to a bench grinder. Most of the guys bought something and I saw a lot of useful items sold. I think the sellers were reasonably happy and the buyers also.

Wendy really excelled and supplied a great buffet lunch with a great variety of food plus plenty of left overs for seconds.

After lunch we had a bowl turning relay with everybody having a go. This was good fun and the finished result did somewhat resemble a bowl, but only just. I feel that if the word gets around that this day was a reasonable success this should become a regular event. Any how in the end I think we all had a good day. Alan Phelps

Stitches and Sewing Show - Rosehill

First of all I would like to sincerely thank everyone who either set up, demonstrated, sold or came along for support. Nothing would have happened without everyone's assistance.

On arriving at the venue we were amazed at the football field size we had been allotted to set up in 12 x 5 m against 6 x 5 m as originally expected was fantastic. The immediate task was to find enough tables to fully fill the space. Finally ten tables from the organizers, four of our folding tables and two trestle tables from the club were found. We set up all the tables with covers and two demonstration lathes, as well as a table for Pyrography, which was manned by Ken Vodden. We had ample lighting for our Display and sales items, plus two areas for our charity sales.

The area allowed us to have a separate section for demonstrations with a central setup for all the display

items, then all the outer walls and spaces for anyone wanting to sell their items.

Extremely large amounts of Camphor were cut up to supply shavings for our Charity Camphor Boxes, extending upwards of 100 per day.

Many thanks to everyone who helped making Charity Bowls. We almost sold all the bowls generously made by the members, with a lot of remarks made about the shapes, sizes and quality of everything. Dave Matthews' Banana Hangers were also a very good seller. Now bananas are within our reach these days. Dave is busy at home making more for future demonstrations.



A very creative visitor to our stand - unfortunately unidentified!

We had a very good display of items on show but in future we could use more members' good items to show to the public, but not for sale; so we can show what can be made if they join the club. Let's see more items at future outings when we have a display. Manny, as usual refused many offers for his lighthouse and if Joanne finds out she will kill him.



The demonstrators made many bag holders, tops, toothpick holders, baseball bats etc., much to the delight of the kids, as well as the adults, with shavings piling up everywhere.

Members items sold very well and it appeared as if everyone was happy with their results, though there cannot be anyone left in Sydney who hasn't been called to Rohan's site with "Hold it up to the light, look in the little end and turn the whole thing" or "this pen was made just for you!".

Our charity did extremely well with thanks again for the quantity and quality of the bowls made by the members. We had many enquiries about joining the club and lots of ladies took forms home with them hoping to get their husbands interested in joining.

Finally, Sunday afternoon arrived and pack up time was proceeded within record time. Many thanks to all the people at Expertise Events for their help and interest and we are looking forward to the next one.

Bob Young

Dutch Club

Well another great two days at the Dutch Club. We got there early and set up under cover and thanks very much to all that helped in setting up for our spot which was right beside Simon Priem and his helpers who were working furiously on their clog machine turning out wooden clogs for display. We set up five tables for sales and charity and two lathes for demonstrations with huge numbers of tops being made for the little children and some not so little children.

As usual out camphor shavings were a big hit and having run out of containers on the first day we had to get some emergency supplies containers for the next day. Charity bowls sold very well and everyone hopped in and helped each other on the sales tables, charity tables and turning items on the lathes.

The smoked trout was a usual superb along with the Grolsch beer. Numerous other food items turned up at the site with not many ideas of what they were, other than they tasted good.

Inside the club were numerous Dutch food items from biscuits, jams and chocolates through to smoked eel and rollmops.

Saturday finished with everyone tired from a hot day and standing all day.

Sunday rolled up and new troops arrived fresh for the day.

Another good day overall with Simon Priem demonstrating making captive rings with a skew between clog making.

More smoked trout and Grolsch was devoured with Bob Young scrounging every empty Grolsch bottle for a son-in-law's home brew endeavour. Both Elizabeth and Fiona had some dancing lessons with Andy out the front.

A quick pack and clean-up to finish the day and then off on a quick trip to Fiona's place to give a panel beating to her lathe which is now working perfectly.

Our sales of shavings, banana stands and bowls for the weekend was most pleasing.

Bob Young



A REMINDER ABOUT SHOP SAFETY

We must all keep in mind the importance of SHOP SAFETY. Please THINK and ACT responsibly at all times.

It is up to all of us to fulfil our commitment by wearing at all times:

- DUST MASKS,
- PROTECTIVE GLASSES,
- SUITABLE CLOTHING,
- FOOTWARE ETC.
- EAR PROTECTION

IT DOES NOT HURT TO DISCUSS SAFETY WITH OTHER MEMBERS IF THEY ARE NOT DOING THE RIGHT THING.

REMEMBER.

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