

WesTurn News

Issue 196

14th February 2017

Western Sydney Woodturners Inc
Twin Gums Retreat, Corner Northcott Road and Diane Drive
PO Box 4008, Lalor Park NSW 2147
Web Site: www.westernsydneywoodturners.com



President's Report

Hello all, another month already gone in the New Year and this is my first Report for 2017; I hope everyone had a good Christmas and New Year.

Back to the grindstone. I would like to let everybody know that we now have a **CLEANING ROSTER** which is up on the Notice Board and we would like everyone to participate in the upkeep of our club. Even if you can't do heavy lifting etc. then there is plenty of light cleaning which you can do to help. This way we can get in some way to keeping our Club in a semi tidy state.

Membership continues to grow with many people doing the turning lessons. I would like to gratefully thank Ron Devine and his Training Team on their fantastic work helping all these people get a good grounding in woodturning. Many thanks guys.

The demonstrations are back on the move again with the first at Third Settlement Reserve at Old Toongabbie on Australia Day and then totally different at Doonside for the twilight Luna Festival. The Stitches and Craft will be next at Rosehill in March and then the Rivergum Markets at Rouse Hill. I hate to say it but the same faces with the exception of a couple of new ones, which is great, turn up every time.

I would like to see more new faces at these demonstrations (you don't have to come for the whole day but be there either to help set up or help pack up) which helps to lighten the load on the ones that turn up every time, sometimes because we can't get enough members to go.

The charity continues to do well at these demonstrations let us hope this continues in the future.

HAPPY TURNING

BOB YOUNG

Club Committee

President: Bob Young (0408760131)

Vice Presidents: Paul de Belle and
Danny Klajman

Secretary: Alan Eipper

Treasurer: Paul Collins

Grants Officer & Membership Secretary:

Raymond Saich OAM

Catering Officer: Paul Collins

Librarian: Ben Reardon

Editor: Ron Fathers

ron1947@optusnet.com.au

Assistant Editor: James (Jimmy) Singh

Jimmy-Woodturner@hotmail.com

Webmaster: Lindsay McEwen

Lcmcewen@optusnet.com.au

Training Co-ordinator: Ron Devine

Trainers: Graham Dawes, Rod Brown,
Alan Phelps, Andy Tappouras

Shop Managers:

Paul Collins (JP) and Bob Young

Stores, Equipment & Maintenance:

Manny Farrugia, Dave Matthews, Jack Kestle

Graham Dawes (JP), Bob Young

Welfare Officer: Robert Stewart

robandgail@hotmail.com

If you have any problems or information concerning the club please contact any of the above committee members.

FOR SALE

Members don't forget we have some Cherry, Sapele, Walnut, European Oak and Alder bench tops for sale at the club!

FREE CORIAN

White - 12mm and 20mm thick
Black - 12mm thick

Shop items

Triple "P"

Friction Polish

Sanding Sealer

Sandpaper

Club Shirts

Dust jackets

Club Badges

Pen Kits

Pen Blanks – Acrylics

Many more items also available

Shop Trading Hours

Mon-Thurs: 9am – 10:30am

12:45 – 1:30pm

Friday nights: 7pm – 7:30pm

See Paul Collins or Bob Young for more details



Thanks to Michelle Rowland MP, The member for Greenway, for her continued support which includes the printing of this newsletter

Club Trading Hours

Mon-Thurs: 8:30am – 4pm \$5

Friday Nights: 5pm – 9pm \$3

Third Saturday of the month:

9am – 3pm \$5

Contact: Liam Healy – 0411560984

Ladies Day – Second Saturday of the month:

Contact: Anna Dawes – 96386995

tandawes@optusnet.com.au

Maxi Day – Third Sunday of the month:

From 9:30am (Lunch included) \$6

19th February – Anna Dawes 3 sided bowl

19th March – Meg Webster Scoops and Spurtles/ Gold Leaf

16th April – Easter Sunday (No Maxi day)

21st May – David McDonald Pen Boxes

Club Meetings

Second Tuesday of the month – 7pm

14th February

14th March

11th April

9th May

Pens Wanted for the Troops

Can members please make and donate any pens for the troops. Please give them to the convenor on your day. Thankyou so much!

Editors

New Members

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

Richard Leniston	Charles Mumford
Joerg Semmelroggen	Elaine Chui
Danny Assabgy	Kim Reeves
Max Semmelroggen	David Pennell
Liz Davis	Michelle Archbold-Thomas

Members Welfare

Our member's welfare is important to our club. If you or someone you know is unwell or worse still no longer with us. Please Let me know at email address;

robandgail@hotmail.com

If anyone is missed be assured that the good wishes and sympathies of our club are with you and your family.

Rob Stewart

COMING EVENTS

February

- Saturday 18th – Bunnings BBQ
Abbot Road Seven Hills (7am to 4:30pm)

March

- Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th – Stitches and Craft Show
Rosehill Gardens Racecourse (10am to 4pm)
- Saturday 25th March - Rivergum Market
49 Withers Road Kellyville (10am to 2pm)

April

- Saturday 29th – Bunnings BBQ
Abbot Road Seven Hills (7am to 4:30pm)
- Any members interested in going to these events please put your name on the clipboards at the club

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to all our members this month. We hope you have a great day with many more to come.

January

Name	Member Since
Ramazan Ak	July - 2016
Martin Charlesworth	January – 2016
John Connaughton	November – 2010
Fred de Jonge	June – 2008
Mark Dunn	October – 2006
Branka Hedges	March – 2011
Andrew Heffernan	January – 1993
Quaid Higgins	July – 2016
Lloyd Ives	March – 2011
Jack Kestle	April – 2011
Allan Kirkland	October – 1996
Janice Lane	December – 2013
Amnon Levin	October – 2015
Sonja Ringstad	July – 2009
Maxwell Tankard	March – 2012
Russell Werner	January – 2009

February

Name	Member Since
Mehmet Colpan	October – 2014
Steve Creighton	November – 2011
Graham Dawes	December – 1992
Fiona Deane	March – 2011
Anthony Dec	August – 2015
Manny Farrugia	October – 2004
Angus Frawley	April – 2016
Joseph Galea	May – 2016
Wayne Hipwell	July – 2004
Maurie Knight	April – 2016
David Malcolm	February – 2009
Mike Mulcahy	April – 2016
Allan Perry	November – 2013
Andrew Riccardi	July – 2016
Tony Simiana	June – 2010
George Wells	September – 2000

B S FROM THE BUSH

Happy New Year to one and all. Hope everyone had a good Christmas and New Year.

What a start to the New Year. Hot, hot, hot. More about that later.

We came back to Sydney to have Christmas with the family, which is getting smaller each year. About time the older Grand Kids got married and do their thing!!!! Ooops.

We had a great time but had to rush back home to organise a party for New Year of which 32 turned up. A good time was had by all. Thinking the New Year would be similar to the pass 60+!!! years, the sun came out and forgot to go back in. IT HAS BEEN HOT.

Since the New Year, I have done nothing. If the day starts cool, you are ready for the heat to come. Some days (rarely) the heat doesn't come, then you think you have wasted a day. This is the hottest year I have experienced in Aussie, not only in Wello but Sydney as well. So hot, Chris and I thought we would go to the coast, of course, calling in to catch up with friends and family in Sydney. Arrived in Sydney Friday and picked up the grand kids and went onto Nurragingy Park, in Blacktown. Met up with the guys working sooooo hard at the turners stall, as the photo shows.



There were some very talented people there (other than the turners) such as the fruit carver and then all the musicians and singers and of course the finale being the fireworks.



Still being very hot in Sydney, all intentions were for us to go to Bulli. Hey man, this is too much of a change. Arriving Monday mid day, temperature in the mid 20's then Tuesday a top of 23. That is 20 degrees below norm for this year. How nice though. I spoke to the Editor whilst in Sydney, being on the ball, like he usually is, he reminds me he needs this report soon, here I am slaving away, on holiday writing this report. Then I check the weather in Wello, 43 for when we get back on Friday. KEEP COOL.

Ken Vodden

Lunch at the Cumberland Club

An invitation had been sent to the President and the two vice Presidents together with our partners to attend Cumberland Woodworkers Christmas Luncheon at their club premises in Iona Street Blacktown on Sunday the 18th December.

Their kind invitation was accepted and accordingly Bob and Lynne Young, Danny and Helen Klajman and Paul and Lyn de Belle attended and were made feel most welcome. We were given a tour of their facilities and layout and it was obvious that they were extremely proud of their "Store room" and meeting facilities area and rightfully so. This was a very impressive building that they had been able to have built as a result of receiving a grant from Blacktown Council.



A simple yet well-presented buffet lunch was served and there was plenty to eat so that no one went hungry, if they did then it was their own fault.

As with any type of function there were a couple of speeches and Paul Dunshea, their president, was most gracious in his welcoming us to their club, similarly the club members also made us feel most welcome and were happy to discuss and show some of their works that they had on display.

One thing that did strike me was the number of Cumberland club members who attended the luncheon. I am unaware as to how many members the club has but it was very well attended.

It is a shame that we cannot get the same sort of patronage at some of our events.

I know that there are a couple of times a year where both clubs attend some functions, such as the Trend Open day and I would like to see a continuance of the goodwill that appears to becoming more evident with the two clubs. After all we all have very similar and common interests, and we can always learn from others.



Paul de Belle

Cross country skiing is great if you live in a small country.

Our Club's Christmas Lunch

Once again the Club met at the Northmead Bowling Club to have our Christmas Club lunch. The setting was as usual, on the open area facing the greens with a pleasant breeze blowing to keep the temperature comfortable.



After a few pale ales and some glasses of the grape, members then took to the menus and went about ordering their meals. That is the beauty of this location, there is quite a variety on the menu to choose from and I have never had any complaints regarding the choice available.

One point that is always a mystery to me, our total was only 37 people, if you take away the partners from the total it does not leave a lot of actual members attending.

Everybody present had a good time, cost is minimal, setting is great but not a lot of club members attending.

Please give some thought to our next possible outing at this venue, Christmas in July, as we like to see as many members at our social occasions so we meet club members who attend the times we are not there.

If this venue is not suitable please talk to the committee and have another venue that may suit some members so that you encourage more members to attend as it is purely a social event.





Rohan McCardell

What's New in the Zoo

This is the first of three new Cougar lathes which we have recently received. These were funded through Michelle Rowland MP's office and the Federal Government Stronger Communities grant to provide us with new equipment for our student mentoring program. The grant which matches our funding dollar for dollar provides new lathes including chucks, safety equipment and new tools for the students. The student mentoring program provides students from Seven Hills High school an opportunity to spend a day each week for five weeks with an experience turner and a unique work experience. If you would like to assist with mentoring students please contact Barbara.



Raymond Saich

Anna Dawes - Maxi Day Square and Natural Edge Turning

Today's Maxi Day was the first to be held in the month of January and now we know why, people obviously have things to do during School Holidays and days when it is extremely hot. The very low numbers were no reflection on the demonstrator, Anna Dawes as Anna is one our longest serving members and as Paul Collins has been spruiking at the lunchtime spiels she is a very competent turner.

Anna firstly made everyone aware of the safety factors and that turning ' shadows' can be dangerous. Be conscious of sleeves and loose clothing and also jewelry.



Sometimes square and natural edge bowls need their edges protected so it may be necessary to glue sacrificial pieces on then remove them when it is finished. In these circumstances she uses paper joints for ease of removing the waste pieces.



Anna spoke for a while on the making of square edged bowls with the four corners not always going in the same direction. She has made a number of these and bought in a few for Show and Tell but she learnt off a master whose specialty is the ' Manta Ray' and that is Terry Scott. This picture to the right is one of his and if you go to woodworkersinstitute.com and in the search box type in manta ray bowl you will get a step by step instruction on how to make one.

She spoke briefly on the ability of holding some unusual shaped items with Cole Jaws or a Donut Chuck.

It was at this point we had a break for lunch and our thanks go to both Ian Frith and Paul Collins for their work in preparing the ham and salads along with the bread rolls. It was quite fitting for a light lunch on a hot day.

Anna hosted Show and Tell and those photos are on a separate page.

At the completion of Show and Tell Anna then briefly demonstrated how to go about turning a triangular bowl and how to do the undercutting of the wings with sacrificial pieces attached. At this point Anna invited any of the audience to participate and Steve Hitchcock went up and took some shavings off.





Next demonstration was on a lump of wood from the fork of a tree, a Y shape. Quite challenging and remembering the ghosting effect of which you need to be most conscious.

To finish off a very informative day Anna showed us how to make 'fish tails', a process used in making the Manta Ray as most of the audience were quite intrigued as to how they were made. See the DVD in the library for this.

Thank you Anna, well done and a big thank you to all those who helped in either setting up or cleaning up.

Ron Fathers

Show and Tell

Barbara Clarke



Red Gum



Red Gum



Maple

Super Glue & Friction Polish

Raymond Saich



Rosewood

Friction Polish

Jimmy Singh



Corian – Friction Polish



Camphor

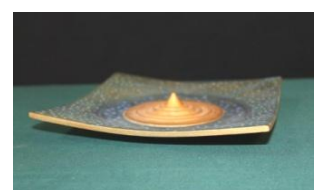
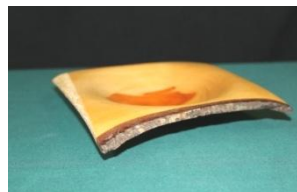


Swamp Mahogany



Burl - Lacquer

Anna Dawes



TWILIGHT MARKETS ROUSE HILL

A very pleasant afternoon and early evening with Rohan McCardell, Dave Matthews, Paul de Belle, Lynne Young and I at the Rivergum Twilight Markets at Rouse Hill with a large contingent of market and food stalls. We were unable to do any demonstrations because our normal power supply was being used to light up the house on the site which happens to be the oldest house in existence in the Rouse Hill area.



There was a spectacular light display, which changed constantly, as well as being in sync with the Christmas Carols being played and sung.

A very good evening was had by all our members and each had a goodly amount of sales. There was a great deal of interest in our items being sold for our Charity and this was handled by Lynne who was kept busy all evening.



Dave saved the day when we had no power for making spinning tops to give the children as he brought a large supply ready-made from home to keep everyone happy.

When packing up we found that our old gazebo had finally given up as it had been damaged in the wind at a previous demonstration and came out second best.

Thanks everyone for your help and attendance.



BOB YOUNG

More Quotes

Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of cheques.

Borrow money from pessimists-they don't expect it back.

Half the people you know are below average.

99 percent of lawyers give the rest a bad name.

AUSTRALIA DAY

DEMONSTATION FOR ROTARY AT THIRD SETTLEMENT PARK

It was a bright summer's day this year and we were surprised on our arrival to see that the Local Council has put in a new toilet block since we were here last year.

Dave Matthews, Bob Young, Rohan McCardell, Barbara Clark, Alan Phelps and Danny Klajman arrived early to set up. I arrived about 7 30 am after it had all been set up.

We had a good display of various items for sale, both members and charity items. Something to suit almost anyone.

Some members made some good sales and we took about \$125.00 in the charity box. The banana stands were again a big hit.

Dave Matthews and Alan Phelps made some spinning tops, which, as usual, were popular with the kids; Alan also made some dolls also popular with the young girls.

We had a steady stream of interested visitors in both our sale items and woodturning in general. I think we may have been a little busier than last year as there seemed to be more people about and the Charity box was up a lot on last year.

There were bacon and egg sandwiches for breakfast, supplied by Rotary and free tea and coffee supplied by the local Scouts.

A Citizenship Ceremony was held at approx 9.15am on the stage where the A Bush Band had earlier entertained those gathered in the park with Aussie Music.

Other Activities included, Local Historical Society, bush care group that offered a guided walk at 7.30 am and trees for a tree planting scheme, also face painting and other things for the kids.

Sydney Antique Machinery Club had a display of old machinery, handmade steam engines, a beautifully restored 1968 Dodge truck and a restored John Deere Tractor. The Javelin Car Club also had some interesting veteran cars on display.

It all started to wind down slowly after the Ceremony which lasted a lot longer than I remember from last year but we still had a few people looking and then we all started to pack up and was gone by 11.45am.

Overall I think all those that participated had an enjoyable morning. A lot of fun and banter.

Terry Boddy





2017



Time sure flies, it only seems like last week that I wrote my last column for 2016 and now we are already into the second month of 2017. The New Year got off to a thump, well the world, unfortunately, to off with a Trump. Much has been written about the election and subsequent actions of this person. However there are a few important things that have been overlooked. These include those who are celebrating his election, namely:

Putin: Is rejoicing in the fact that the world no longer thinks of him as the most arrogant leader.

Kim Il Wrong: Gleefully expressed the view that he is no longer the most stupid leader.

Please explain: Is devastated that her hair has been “Trumped.”

Eddie McGuire: Has decided to stand for Prime Minister at the next election saying if Trump can get elected I must be a certainty because I will be able to “call a friend” when necessary.

Journalists: They will be able to write anything about Trump as whatever they write the reader will believe it to be true.

On the other hand (well according to what Chainsaw was heard say). The American voters and maybe those who did not vote are now playing cards with a vengeance with a special emphasis on the game of 500 as they want to learn how to develop their skill in playing No Trumps.

My recently recruited Health and Safety Reporter, Dr Turner, has expressed great sadness in the gross decline in the health and welfare of too many of the club members. When I asked her to explain she responded with examples of her observations of member behaviour.

Declining Vision: Inability to read the sign in large print that says “Please flush after use.”

Reduced Reach: Cleaning a very small area around their lathe, not vacuuming the tool box or the bench behind the lathe.

Limited Lifting: Not replacing the floor mats, paper towel and toilet rolls or emptying the sawdust bins.

Colour Blindness: Putting rubbish in the re-cycle bin and re-cycling items in the rubbish bin.

Dr Turner has questioned the wisdom of allowing these people to continue turn. She is considering developing a “Turning Test” (along the lines of the RMS driving test) to ensure members are safe to turn. She will look at such things as; vision, flexibility, lifting capacity, dementia, decision making, social compliance, colour blindness and etc. She is also contemplating researching why these apparent conditions do not impact upon an individual’s ability to turn, i.e. do something for them self. The paper is likely to be titled **Selfishness – Laziness or Health Issues**.

Quote of the month:

Maybe the answer to the problem is for the club to employ a Mum to supervise member behaviour – Dr. Turner.

**Must Fly
Woodchip**

"The Last Word"

The Mayonnaise Jar and the Coffee

When things in your life seem too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar... and the coffee...

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him.

When the class began, wordlessly he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly and the pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with an emphatic "yes".

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the space between the sand. The students laughed.

"Now", said the professor as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar is your life. The golf balls are the important things – your family, your children, your faith, your health, your friends and your favourite passions. Things, that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full.

The pebbles are the other things that matter. Your job, your house, your car. The sand is everything else – the small stuff. If you put the sand into the jar first" he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children: take time to get medical checkups: take your partner out to dinner: play another 18 holes. There will always be time to clean the house and tidy the garden. Take care of the golf balls first, the things that really matter. Set your priorities - the rest is just sand".

One of the students raised her hand and asked what the coffee represented. The professor smiled: "I'm glad you asked that. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend !"

A Few More Quotes

Plan to be spontaneous tomorrow.

If you think nobody cares about you, try missing a couple of payments.

Drugs may lead to nowhere, but at least it's the scenic route.

I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.

Safety Matters

A Reminder about Workshop Safety

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

It is up to all of us to fulfill our commitment by wearing at all times;

- ✓ Dust masks
- ✓ Protective glasses
- ✓ Suitable clothing
- ✓ Footwear
- ✓ Ear protection

It does not hurt to discuss safety with other members if they are not doing the right thing.

REMEMBER..... It is your body and your limbs.....



TREND TIMBERS



SPECIALIST IN FINE WOODS
Established 1969 A third generation timber family

YOUR 1 STOP WOODWORKING SHOP IN NSW

Over 100 species
Select timbers for
Cabinetmaking
Furniture
Joinery
Woodturning
Carving

TREND TIMBERS
15 Railway Road North,
Mulgrave NSW 2756
TELEPHONE: 02 4577 5277
FAX: 02 4577 6846
Email: sales@trendtimbers.com.au
www.trendtimbers.com.au

Opening Hours
ALL WELCOME!!
Mon- Fri 8am-4pm
Sat 8am-11.30am
Closed
Public Holidays &
Long Weekends



THE WOOD WORKER'S CHOICE!

CNC Machinery	Metal Working	Sheet Metal Fabrication	Wood Working	Cutting Tools	Machine Tool Accessories	Measuring Equipment	Workshop & Automotive	Lifting Handling
---------------	---------------	-------------------------	--------------	---------------	--------------------------	---------------------	-----------------------	------------------

MBW-2 Mobile Base

- 2 wheels with lever action for raising
- 227kg capacity
- Weight 8kgs
- Perfect for moving machines
- Minimum/Maximum: 279x279mm/482x1295mm



Order Code: W930
\$89
 SAVE \$10

LEVER ACTION RAISES AND LOCKS

TiGer 2000S Wetstone Grinder

- German design & technology
- 200mm stone & hone wheels
- 120W, 240V
- Includes straight edge jig, setting gauge & honing paste



Order Code: W859
\$180
 SAVE \$18

os-58 Oscillating Vertical Bobbin Sander

- 1/2", 3/4", 1", 1-1/2", 2" & 3"
- 370 x 290mm cast iron table
- Rotating & oscillating
- 450W / 240V motor



Order Code: W843
\$249
 SAVE \$26

WT-8 HSS Wood Turning Tool Set

- High speed steel
- Includes:
 - 15mm & 26mm skew
 - 7mm S & 14mm spindle gouges
 - 14mm & 16mm parting & beading
 - 24mm roughing gouge
 - 15mm domed scraper



Order Code: W301
\$99
 SAVE \$11

Deco Flex Scroll Saw

- 406mm throat capacity
- Tilting table 0-45°
- 90W / 240V motor
- Variable speeds
- Includes light, air blower & flexidrive shaft with chuck



Order Code: W348
\$220
 SAVE \$11

bts 900x Belt & Disc Linisher Sander

- 100 x 915mm belt
- Tilting table & mitre guide
- Ø150mm disc
- 370W / 240V motor



Order Code: L105
\$219
 SAVE \$23

WL-18 Swivel Head Wood Lathe

- 310 x 900mm turning capacity
- Swivelling headstock
- Variable speed 500-2000rpm
- 0.75kW/1hp, 240V motor
- Includes bowl turning attachment faceplate, drive & live centres tool rest & stand



Order Code: W382
\$549
 SAVE \$23

BP-255 Wood Band Saw

- 245 x 152mm capacity
- Cast iron table tilts 45°
- 2 x blade speeds
- LED lighting
- 0.37kW / 0.5hp 240V



Order Code: W950
\$399
 SAVE \$30

DC-2 Dust Collector

- 500cfm LPHV system
- Quick action clamps
- 5 micron filter bag
- 1p, 240V motor



Order Code: W332
\$209
 SAVE \$11

ST-12D Table Saw

- 950 x 690mm table
- 1220mm rip fence
- Ø305mm TCT blade
- Tilt arbor to 45°
- 3hp 240V 20A motor
- Taiwanese Machine



Order Code: W454
\$1,995
 SAVE \$84

hf-50 Bench Top Router

- 610 x 360mm cast iron table
- 8000 - 24000rpm variable speed
- 0 - 40mm spindle height
- 1.5kW / 2hp, 240V



CALL INTO OUR SHOWROOM FOR PROFESSIONAL ADVICE ON HAFCO TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

Order Code: W846
\$409
 SAVE \$20

T-13S Bench Mount Thicknesser

- 330 x 152mm capacity
- Spiral cutter head with HSS inserts
- Smooth & quieter cutting
- Anti-kick back fingers
- 2.4hp, 240V



Order Code: W815
\$729
 SAVE \$30

RT-100 Sliding Router Table

- 785 x 560mm table
- Gas struts table supports
- Sliding aluminium table
- Adjustable guides & clamps



Order Code: W4485
\$569
 SAVE \$25

- CEYLAN
 Staff Member



BECOME A MACHINERYHOUSE **MATE!**
www.machineryhouse.com.au/signup

- ✓ PAPERLESS WARRANTY
- ✓ TRACK YOUR ORDERS
- ✓ EXCLUSIVE OFFERS
- ✓ LATEST RELEASES

- ✓ ONLINE PROMOS
- ✓ CLICK & COLLECT
- ✓ COMPETITIONS
- ✓ NEWSLETTERS

\$70 FREE DISCOUNT VOUCHERS

VIEW AND PURCHASE THESE ITEMS ONLINE AT
www.machineryhouse.com.au/WTNFEB

SYDNEY
 (02) 9890 9111
 1/2 Windsor Rd,
 Northmead

BRISBANE
 (07) 3274 4222
 625 Boundary Rd,
 Coopers Plains

MELBOURNE
 (03) 9212 4422
 1 Fowler Rd,
 Dandenong

PERTH
 (08) 9373 9999
 11 Valentine St,
 Kewdale

Specifications & Prices are subject to change without notification. All prices include GST and valid until 28-02-17

01_WTNFEB_010217

THE BACK PAGE

Item Number 35

Some Thoughts

Having been invited to write an article for the Back Page of The WSWT news I was stumped for a subject. In previous articles most of practical subjects have been covered in great depth by others more gifted and knowledgeable members than I am.

Perhaps I could just discuss some of my thoughts and feelings about our hobby and introduce the concept of the Back Page as a forum for more discussion. The membership of this club is as diverse as you could imagine with as many opinions as there are members.

All members of the club have a deep felt love of wood. Some of us torture the wood in ways that would make the Inquisition blush while others treat the wood with enough TLC to make Florence Nightingale seam callous. We all however aspire to the same results to the best of our ability.

I will now express some of my thoughts about rules, expectations and perfection.

Rules: Sir Douglas : “Tin Legs” Bader, fighter ace, leader and war hero once stated that “Rules are for the obedience of fools and the guidance of wise men”. He then proceeded to break the rules for the aeroplane he was flying, he crashed, destroyed a perfectly good aeroplane and ended up with having both legs amputated. Perhaps rules do have their place.

What aggravates me is when some self-appointed Guru lays down rules that theirs is the only way to produce good turning. This could result in us becoming perfect clones of the Guru but with a vague feeling of discontent. I recall when a world famous Guru informed the members of our club that we only produced buckets. On another occasion the presenter during show and tell stated that “turners don’t like straight lines,” perhaps he should have said, “this turner doesn’t like straight lines.” By all means admire these peoples work and aspire to surpass them, but for “what’s his names “sake think for yourself.

Expectations: When is near enough good enough? I have been accused (you know who) of having a rather casual attitude to turning. Despite my apparent attitude, I still attempt to work to my best ability.

When is enough, enough? As a youngster I was told the following story.

An ancient Greek philosopher become disenchanted with the materialistic attitude of the modern world, so he decided to divest himself of every possession he considered unnecessary, money, house, clothing etc. the only possession he kept was a small bowl to be able to drink from the stream. Imagine his chagrin when he strolled down to the stream for a drink of water he saw a goat herd bend over, cup his hands and take a drink of water. The question arises when is enough enough. We must all set our own standards.

Perfection: “the pursuit of perfection inhibits creativity” (anon)

The ladies of the Amish religion when making their world famous quilts always sewed in a mistake so their perfection would not offend God. What arrogance!

I have seen people almost in tears because they cannot achieve perfection. What some people seem to forget is that they are starting out with an imperfect product. I personally love the unpredictability of wood. It nearly always presents a challenge, sometimes delights and sometimes frustrates but never bores. If you want to achieve perfection, start with a perfect product.

In conclusion: These are some of my thoughts, if you disagree or are offended please let me know. I will be only too pleased to read your thoughts.

Steve Hitchcock

Note: As in all professions there are many and varied opinions and ways of doing things. This is true of wood turning. These articles are the results of my reading article publication