

WestTurn News



Guild Web Site:

<http://www.sydneymwoodturners.com.au>

Issue 104, 12th August 2008.

Western Sydney Woodturners

Postal Address: PO Box 4008, Lalor Park, NSW 2147

Twin Gums Retreat Address: Cnr Northcott Rd & Diane Dr, Lalor Park

President's Message

There have been several new members to our club recently and we hope you enjoy the activities and the company of our members. Welcome to Karen Rock, Brian Lankow, Darryl Lane and Fred de Jonge.

Don't forget that Saturday 16th August is cleanup day. Now that our clubhouse has a new roof, it should stay clean with no more ugly water stains.



Woodturn 08: We need your names and payment by the end of September.

Thanks to the members who turned the message sticks for the Parramatta Park 150th Anniversary celebrations.

Ron Devine

Library:

Wayne Hipwell

Stores, Equipment & Maintenance: [Graham Dawes](#), [Alan Phelps](#) and [Dave Matthews](#). Please let them know if you find any problems with any of the machinery in the hall.

Sick List: If anyone knows of any of our members or their partners who are on the sick list, please contact [Graham Murray](#) (0412 913 508) who will send a card on behalf of the club.

Editor:

[Bill Hartley](#) (98716128)

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Catering Officer: [Rohan McCardell](#).

Secretary:

[Ian O'Connor](#) (9715 3450)

ianroy56@bigpond.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary:

[Bob Young](#) (9873 2773)

Western Sydney Woodturners

Workshops:

Tuesday and **Wednesday** from 9.30am (Entry \$5) and every **Friday Night** starting at 7.00pm (Entry \$3)

Maxidays:

Third Sunday every month from 10.00am (Entry \$6) Usually a guest turner gives a demonstration, then Show & Tell.

Lunch is provided.

17th August No demonstration: normal hands-on day.

Committee Meeting:

The committee meeting is held on the **second Tuesday of the month** starting at 7.00pm at Twin Gums. All are welcome to attend.

Coming Outings:

Sat 6th September St Marys Spring Festival

Sat 13th September
Wisteria Gardens, Parramatta Park!

Sunday 14th September Linwood House

Sat 20th September Blue Mountains Decorating Day,
Blaxland High School

Sat 27th September Central Coast
"Pleasure in Learning" Day; \$10 incl lunch.

At the old butter factory at Wyong just around the corner from Bob Jarvis' brother-in-law!

Phone: 02 4655 7295
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Frank Hicks

Macarthur Woodturning Supplies



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Christmas in July 2008

In excess of fifty members and their partners, family, etc assembled at the Toongabbie/Seven Hills RSL club on Sunday 20th July for our get-together over a very nice seafood and roast lunch. It was obvious that members enjoy the opportunity to spend some social time together and to introduce their partners.

As you can see from the photos, we all enjoyed the ample nourishment and the opportunity for a chat. There was even time for an after-dinner nap!



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Linnwood House Outing 13th July

A cool brisk Sunday morning and the Woodies were at it again, this time at the historic Linnwood house in Guildford, ready to turn rough wood into something useful or otherwise.



Don Nixon, Tony Marberly, Bob Young and yours truly entertained the masses with turning tops (the spinning type), Christmas trees, (for Christmas in July?) and what ever else crossed our minds.



The American Independent's Car display was also held in the Linnwood grounds, representing the car makers Hudson A.M.C., Studebaker, Packard, Willys, and Auburn. I am not a car person, but seeing all those lovely old timers beautifully restored was quite nostalgic for me (showing my age!).

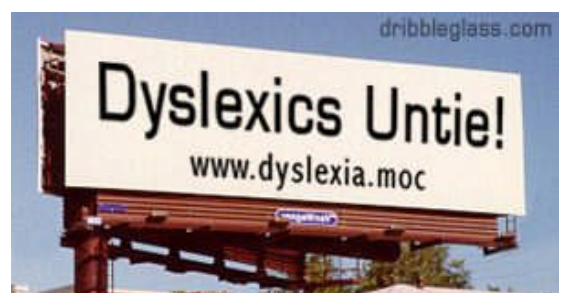


The Trocadero Rock & Roll Dance Group provided some more nostalgic moments .



Our charity tin did reasonably well with a grand total of \$67.80. Some venues are better than others.

Erich Aldinger



Graduation Class



John Talbot

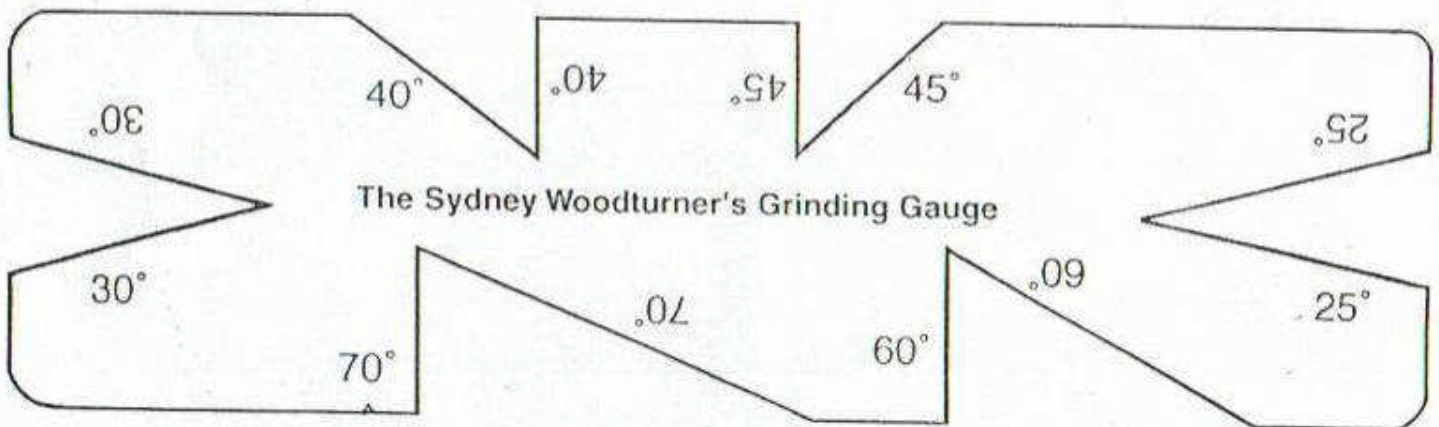
Ray Sparks

Matthew Sparks

Allan Eipper

The members, John Talbot, Ray Sparks, and Matthew Sparks have received their certificates after completing the evening training course in basic woodturning. Another of the group has gone one step further and took up Santa's challenge of turning a wooden ball using only the skew chisel. Here is Allan Eipper showing off his handiwork.

Santa's Tip for the Month



A must for successful turning, is to make sure your chisels are not only sharp, but also correctly ground. By next month, I hope to have out my next DVD featuring sharpening of all basic chisel types. In preparation for this, the tip for this month is how to make a simple grinding gauge. You can make this in 10-15 minutes and will find it to be very worthwhile.

First get a free copy of the paper template from our library. Also get a copy of the page that gives grinding angles and shapes for the basic chisels.

Next, paste the template on a suitably sized piece of 3 ml MDF. You can use spray craft adhesive for quick result, or use PVA and wait a bit longer

A good idea is to drill a 3 or 4 ml hole just close to the corner of the angles (see photo) to allow the chisel point to enter without damaging the gauge. (I also cut the template to space the angles apart, making it less likely to snap between the corners of the angles. Not necessary, but should give a longer life.)

Now cut the angles out with a handsaw (use the club unit if you don't have one.) Just a few minutes work to do this. Finally, spray with hairspray or brush with PVA to give a protective coating and you are ready to go. You could also paste the sheet that gives grinding angles etc. on a piece of MDF and keep it and your gauge handy to your grinder. You won't regret it. Happy grinding.

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What a Week-end or How I got into the Doghouse

It started a few weeks ago with the usual e-mail alert that a tree was coming down in our neighbourhood. After a million phone calls and false starts, Bob Young and I saw the arborist on Friday and told the very obliging fellow the parts of the giant tree that we would like for our purpose.



Luckily for us the home owner let us use her yard to store the wood until we were able to pick it up on Monday, because we "had" to go to the Timber & Working with Wood Show on Saturday, followed on Sunday by our club Maxi-day, where Glenn Roberts from the Newcastle area was to be our guest demonstrator.



So, we'll start with the Working with Wood Show. First you had to stand in line and join all the other turners, carvers, joiners, modellers, school kids and hobbyists in a queue, which shows the popularity of the show.



I for one always enjoy winding my way through the halls and exhibits, the myriad of stalls and items on offer or just to dream about. My wife threatened to cut up my credit cards if I spent too much. Well I didn't go overboard, only bought the essentials — a new bowl gouge, some polishes, sand paper, etc., etc. (So I still have my cards) .

In Hall 2, one can see how skilled and talented the "Woody" people really are. Our Guild, the Sydney Woodturners Guild, had again a great stand with some very good turners demonstrating. Among them were our friend the ubiquitous Bruce Leadbeater, By Hand & Eye editor Bill Shean and our own Bob Hodge ("Santa").





Richard Raffan always seemed to attract a full house to his sessions. Some of the exhibits in Hall 2 are absolutely mind boggling. How clever some people are!



Now to our Maxi-day. Ever since I saw Glenn Roberts at the Blue Mountains Challenge last year, I've been looking forward for him coming to do a demo at our club. Glenn is certainly not the conventional turner, but boy is he full of good ideas of how to approach turning from a different angle. His platters are a work of art, not the usual dust collectors most of us produce.



Glenn is a fountain of information on tools and gadgets and various methods of embellishment of turned or sculptured pieces. After lunch, he conducted the Show and Tell session and then promptly carried on with his demonstration. He could have had us there till tea

time, that's how good he is. I have not seen the lads so interested since we had Guilio Marcolongo.

PS: After lunch, Neil Guthrie presented a photo (signed by many members) of her husband Kenneth Rock ("Rocky") to his widow Karen. It is a picture of him standing next to his famous turned lighthouse. Karen misses him very much, and so do we all!



It's Monday morning. Chain saw, trailer hooked up, off to cut the camphor laurel pieces to liftable sizes. I was first on the scene and when I saw what the arborist guy had left us, I nearly had a heart attack.



Some logs were taller than some members.



But the “cavalry” arrived, and in no time we have four chainsaws going, from 9am till 3pm. I was surprised that the neighbours didn’t call the cops because of the racket we were making.



Allan Phelps did some supervising, Neil came in time to load his trailer and last but not least Bob Taylor and Colleen came just to raise Bob Young’s blood pressure. The bulk of the timber went to Graham’s place to be slabbed at a time to be decided. Perhaps Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, ...



The “cavalry” consisted of Bob Young, who was also the cut director (deciding where to cut the great lumps of wood), Eddy Catford whose girth is matched by his muscles, Rohan McCardell snapping some action shots, Bob Jarvis who came to the rescue with some nice hot chips at lunch time, Tony Maberly who did too much lifting, Dom Vaticano who is a demon with the chainsaw, Gary Hansell who rock-and-rolled the logs into cutting position and Santa who tried to cut the monster with a plastic saw.

I’d better get down to my lathe and start turning a “peace offering” in order to get out of the Doghouse.

Erich Aldinger

Saturday— The saga continues at Graham Dawes' home in North Rocks. He wisely picked a day when the neighbours were not home and hence no noise complaints about the buzz of chain saws.



Eddie and Gary position a log on the cutting frame of Graham's slabbing machine. Some steel spikes are hammered home to hold each end on the frame which is then stood up and the chainsaw attached.



Gary shows how he guides the blade down through the timber aided by gravity and the weight of the saw, balanced by the counterweight on the right.



Of course Rohan got the tape out so that he could have this piece cut to his specifications.



Bob Young searching for that special piece of camphor.

Bob Jarvis brought his home-made slabbing machine and it performed well. It has an electric motor driving the chain blade and is relatively quiet compared to the petrol chain saws. And it's portable too. Bob unloaded it from the back of his van and had it going in no time.



Here's Bob's electric slabber complete with swing arm and block & tackle. If you'd like it, it's for sale.

