

WestTurn News

Guild Web Site:
<http://www.sydneymwoodturners.com.au>

Issue 87, 13th February 2007.

Western Sydney Woodturners
Postal Address: PO Box 4008, Lalor Park, NSW 2147
Twin Gums Retreat Address: Cnr Northcott Rd & Diane Dr, Lalor Park

Western Sydney Woodturners

Management Committee 2007

President: Robert Jarvis 9622 2741

Vice-president: Tony Maberly 9622 7561

Secretary: Ian O'Connor 9715 3490

Treasurer: Bob Young 98732773

Guild Reps: Erich Aldinger
Robert Taylor
Ron Devine

Library: See Don Hughes if you would like to know what is currently available from our library.

Please remember that some of the items within the library are on loan from other members and all care should be taken to bring them back as soon as you are finished. Just as in other libraries one month is usually sufficient time to have an item out.

Stores, Equipment & Maintenance: Toby McIlwain, Ted Edwards and Graham Dawes. Please let them know if you find any problems with any of the machinery in the hall.

Editor: Bill Hartley 98716128
williamhartley@optusnet.com.au

Catering Officer: Rohan McCardell.

Sick List: Peter Ryan is recovering after a shoulder operation. Sorry to report that the wives of two of our members are very ill and our thoughts go to Dom Vaticano and Anna and Malcolm Stigg and Pam at this time.

Bowls for Any Event!

Don't forget if you are not turning anything in particular, think about turning one of our blanks. It appears that these are becoming very popular at our demonstrations in the rummage box. They are a significant source of income for the club and our charity work.

Calendar for 2007:

Workshops: Every **Tuesday** from 9.30am,
Wednesday from 9.30am and
Friday Night from 7.00pm.

Maxidays: **Third Sunday** every month from 10.00am
There is usually a demonstration by a guest turner.
Lunch is provided.

The next Maxiday is on Sunday 18th February.
Ernie Newman from the Blue Mountains group will talk about and demonstrate dolls, inlays, boxes, etc. He will also conduct the Show & Tell.

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.

The next Committee meeting is on 13th March 2007.

Ladies Days: Ring or see Anna Dawes for details on 96386995.

Good News

All our lathes have now been fitted with screens attached to the lathes. In the near future they will all be fitted with dust extractors and permanent lights.

Other Coming Events/Demonstrations:

1st April 2007 Norwest Heritage Park

21st April 2007 Blue Mountains Challenge

President's Message:

We are conducting a contest for the design of a badge for the Western Sydney Woodturners Inc. Our old club logo was a Guild badge so now we need our own. We will also investigate T-shirts with the badge. The winner gets a reasonable bottle of wine.

A great start to 2007. The first Maxiday of the year was very successful with an interesting presentation by the Rose Engine enthusiasts or as some wag calls them "the do nothing machines". The Show & tell was well supported and there was some great work on show as you'll see in the photos.

Christmas Parties 2006

There were two end of year celebrations this year. The first was a lunch held at the Pendle Hill Tavern on **Friday 1st December**.



This was organised by Allan Kirkland who reports that about 20 members attended and all enjoyed sharing a meal and a yarn with their Wednesday woodturning mates

On the day before the "main event" there was a great response to the call for helpers to really give the place the best clean it has ever experienced.

I've never seem so much activity with members moving lathes and rearranging the furniture, scrubbing and wiping floors, cleaning all the seating, dusting everywhere, cleaning the kitchen, scrubbing the toilets and wiping down anything that didn't move.



Of course I took plenty of photos of this work but I'm afraid of the consequences if I published any of them as several of the blokes don't want their cleaning talents known. So I've had to hide their faces so you couldn't possibly identify them.



The main party held at Twin Gums on **Sunday 10th December** was a great success with 64 members and their partners attending.

Our catering officer, Rohan McCardell wishes to thank the many people who jumped in and assisted with preparations and those members and partners who helped by bringing salads, cakes, cheese, etc. Rohan also excelled himself by providing a great meal and a fantastic punch. I'm sure everyone enjoyed the occasion.



Maxi Day 21st January 2007

Manny Farrugia, Graham Dawes and Toby McIlwain joined forces to give a presentation on the workings of their Rose Engines. The inspiration to spend many hours making these contraptions came from the sales promotion at Hare and Forbes where a range of these machines were demonstrated and a wonderful display of decorative pieces were featured on the stand of the Ornamental Turners. Our little interest group hope to now design and make some cutters, so hopefully we will soon see some pretty fancy turning.



Show & Tell 21st January 2007

Graham Dawes conducted Show & Tell and noted the high standard of the pieces presented, as you'll see from the photos. Thanks to Eric Aldinger for taking the photos in my absence.

There was a good variety among the twenty or so pieces presented which is rather good for the first day back in the new year. Des Page won the raffle which was a baked dinner.



Trish Gale

- Pot-pourri bowl; Pine; Industrial Lacquer

Tony Maberley

- Bottle; Radiata Pine; Enamel & Estapol
- Barrel; Maple & American Oak; Friction Polish

Mike Harvey

- Vase; Merbau; Friction Polish
- Beaded Dish; Merbau — offcut from vase; friction polish
- Scent Flask; Camphor Laurel; Friction polish
- Scent Flask; Unknown timber; Friction polish

Graham Dawes

- Knives and forks; Jacaranda; Estapol

Des Page

- Platter; Unknown timber; A Phelps Polish
- Vase; Teak; Watty 7008
- Platter; Teak; Watty 7008
- Bud Vase; Laminated teak; AP Polish

Alan Phelps

- Bowl; Radiata Pine; Woodoil
- Small Bowl; Hardwood; Isogard Friction Polish
- Bowl; Merbau; Friction Polish

Bob Jarvis

- Small Bowl; Pacific Maple and others; Wax
- Platter; Silky oak; Friction Polish
- Dipping Bowl; Unknown timber; Wax
- Two Platters; Merbau; Wax

Sid Churchward

- Lazy Susan; Silky oak; Shellac & Wax

John Malysiak

- Vase; Liquid Amber & Qld Blackwood; Inst Estapol
- Bowl; NG Rosewood, Cedar, Jacaranda; Instant Estapol

Erich Aldinger

- Trunion Box; Sassafras; Friction Polish
- Vase with Spiral top; Blackwood; Friction Polish
- Trunion Box; Blackwood; Friction Polish
- Trunion Box; Osage Orange; Friction Polish

Larry Bailey

- Bowl; Camphor Laurel; Lacquer
- Bowl; Silky Oak; Lacquer
- Vase; Jacaranda; Lacquer
- Platter; Camphor Laurel; Industrial Lacquer



Salvaged from the Garbage



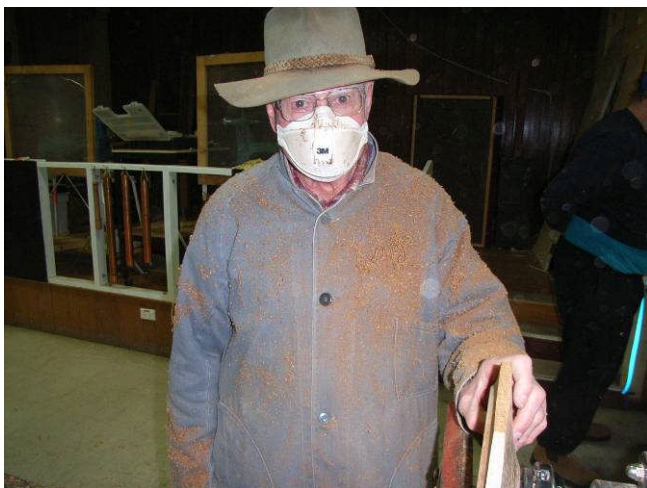
Cast your peepers over this attractive 21 inch platter which featured in this month's Show & Tell. It was lovingly finished and presented for appraisal by George Wells who rescued it from the garbage bin and went about a restoration job.

It started life as a silky oak bowl being turned by Bob Jarvis. After a serious dig-in, the bowl took flight from Bob's lathe, crashed into the guard then banged into the wall, giving Alan Phelps a bit of a scare on the way.

After being set aside as another one of Bob's failures and kept up the back of the shop as an example of what not to do, it was finally committed to the bin during one of our cleanups. George noticed the discarded job with the split and the holes and being aware of the need to recycle and conserve our natural resources, he sought Bob's permission to take it.



George is like that — he has the ability of seeing the potential in a rough and broken specimen and can visualise its inner beauty. He's like that with people too.



The photos on this page show the transformation he achieved. He inserted a new piece of timber, filled the holes, put a new piece on the rim and coated the work with a nice gloss finish then added some attractive folk art. The change from ugly duckling to graceful swan is complete and George's skills have turned a previously discarded disaster into a work of art.

Bob is now thinking of asking for it back, but George will only agree for the price of \$200.

Just a Laugh

A man and woman were having dinner in a fine restaurant on Fifth Avenue in Naples. Their waitress, taking another order at a table a few steps away, suddenly noticed that the man was slowly sliding down his chair and under the table, but the woman acted unconcerned.

The waitress watched as the man slid all the way down his chair and out of sight under the table. Still, the woman appeared calm and unruffled, apparently unaware that her dining companion had disappeared.

The waitress went over to the table and said to the woman, "Pardon me, ma'am, but I think your husband just slid under the table."

The woman calmly looked up at her and said, "No he didn't. He just walked in the door".

A man and his wife walked into a dentist's office. The man said to the dentist, "Doc, I'm in one hell of a hurry. I have two buddies sitting out in my car waiting for us to go play golf. So forget about the anaesthetic and just pull the tooth and be done with it. We have a 10:00 AM tee time at the best golf course in town and it's 9:30 already. I don't have time to wait for the anaesthetic to work!"

The dentist thought to himself, "My goodness, this is surely a very brave man asking to have his tooth pulled without using anything to kill the pain." So the dentist ask him, "Which tooth is it sir?"

The man turned to his wife and said, "Open your mouth Honey, and show him."

Ode to the Wednesday Woodies



By Neil Guthrie

In an old church hall in Lalor Park
There's an earnest bunch of blokes
And sometimes there's some women, just a few
See they all have this in common
Bits of wood and lots of tools
And all in all, a really motley crew

There's **Bob Jarvis** our convenor
He's the President as well
Then there's **Tony**, he's the President of Vice
Ted's been round since the beginning
And he knows a lot of stuff
We often go to him for his advice

Toby makes some tiny turnings
Things you wouldn't quite conceive
He uses up the scrap and chips of trees
Graham Dawes can always fix it
Or he'll make one just from scratch
For maintenance he's just the man to see

Alan Phelps makes "Phelpsy's" polish
And he's working on it yet
No recipe..... he keeps it very close
But **Rohan** speaks his mind a lot
He's the caterer you know
But when he speaks his mind he's quite verbose

Alan Kirkland goes "off-roading"
In his four wheel driven truck
We wonder where he gets to now and then
Bill Hartley our reporter and the editor in chief
Is doing such a job, that we are glad
That he has taken up the pen

Ken Rock who's known as Rocky
Turns those pretty little knobs
He has two women we all wonder why
While **Bobbie** known as Taylor
Makes an awful lot of noise
So maybe he's just really very shy

Don Hughes knows what it's all about
He comes in time for lunch
The library is his domain, we thank him very much
George Wells just works away back there
Bowls, candle sticks and such
And finishes with Estapol to give the final touch

Bob Young, he minds our money
He teaches Tai Kwan Do
Don't argue over funding with this guy
And **Ron Devine** he's happy
We can tell it from his laugh
Is it sawdust in the air that makes him high?

Neil Guthrie's reputation on the topic of red wine
Took a beating when he also lost his cool
To fix it he'll have lots of work to do
But **Mannie**, he is clever, he built a clever thing
With lots of bells and whistles nut and bolts
And we're really not quite sure what it will do

Secretary **Ian** is a fairly recent find
He fits right in and takes on this big job
I say the talents in this bunch are quite untold
And **Erich** did a mighty job to organise a trip
To Bungendore to see the gallery there
To round up all this wayward bunch was really very bold

Italians all love olives, **Dom** also loves the wood
He's always turning salt and pepper mills
Shape and colour, texture; all have much impressed
Peter Bland made his machine to turn a perfect sphere
He designed a special cutter like a skew
And now his balls are smoother than the rest

Now **Peter Ryan's** shoulder is keeping him away
We know that he'll be back to stir us up
With cliché after cliché in voices loud and clear
And **Stiggy** comes around to share some time
He just pops in for lunch time and also shares a cup
And tells us yarns of fish and fishing gear

Syd comes by from time to time
And so does **Wayne**; he's quiet
Another Bill; **Bill Motley** pops in too
Big tall **John** and "No Lunch **Paul**"
All come and go; they're all just
Wednesday Woodies through and through

John Malysiak long time member
Does some laminated bowls
And **Desmond, Dave** and **Greg** all pitch in too
There are really lots of others
That you don't see all the time
But still they're part of 'Twin Gums' motley crew

Norfolk Island Spikes

Wayne Hipwell



An island paradise

During a recent holiday on Norfolk Island, a local wood turner directed me to the nearby saw mill to have a look at the bottom section of a recently felled Norfolk Island pine.



Although these trees will grow very tall and the trunk will be solid at the top, the bottom section is often hollow. Apparently grubs or some other insects eat the nice soft wood in the centre of the tree but enough of the outer layers under the bark remains and can feed and support the growing tree.



It is interesting that the grubs do not eat the harder wood that forms the branches within the tree. As you will see in the attached photographs, these inner sections of the tree branches appear as spikes protruding into the tree. You can also see the sap still oozing from the outer layers of the trunk.



The local wood turner told me that he turns the harder spikes as well as the softer outer wood (which is good for bowls etc).

The Little Firefighter

A firefighter is working on the engine outside the station when he notices a little girl next door in a little red wagon with little ladders hung off the side and a garden hose tightly coiled in the middle.

The girl is wearing a firefighter's helmet. The wagon is being pulled by her dog and cat.

The fire fighter walks over to take a closer look.

"That sure is a nice fire truck," the fire fighter says with admiration.

"Thanks, Mister Fireman" the girl says.

The firefighter looks a little closer and notices the girl has tied the wagon to the dog's collar and to the cat's testicles.

"Little Partner," the firefighter says, "I don't want to tell you how to run your rig, but if you were to tie that rope around the cat's collar, I think you could go faster."

The little girl replied sweetly, "You're probably right, but then I wouldn't have a siren!"

Your Turn ... Ted Edwards!

As a longtime member of the Sydney Woodturners Guild with the pioneer's member number of 191, Ted is one of the most widely known and highly respected members of our club and is universally regarded as the "guru". He was the inaugural convenor of the Western Sydney and Blue Mountains regional club and was in that position from 1989 to 1991 with the added responsibility of being Regional Rep. He is a man of very wide knowledge and considerable experience in all matters technical, yet gains tremendous satisfaction from being able to help anyone who needs assistance. As a teacher, he is a natural, with a non-critical, supportive attitude to his students and most of them say he has the patience of Job.



Rebuilding a lathe is a piece of cake to Ted

His talents in all aspects of woodwork and metalwork, welding, electrics, etc are legendary and those of us lucky enough to have been invited to his home can testify that he has the most fabulous "shed" with an array of machines and tools that would rival the Pow-erhouse Museum.

Ted's original training was as a carpenter and joiner, progressing to the level Clerk of Works. Then, for a change of scenery, Ted joined the Fleet Airarm of the navy, based at HMS Albatross at Nowra, as a radio technician. He then changed his rate to shipwright involved in ship maintenance on vessels of all types.



The navy taught him such skills as electronics, spray-painting, signwriting, sheetmetal work and welding. His work took him to every state of Australia, New Guinea, the South Pacific and even a stint patrolling the Great Barrier Reef islands. It was also in the navy that Ted did a course on instructional technique which no doubt honed his teaching skills to a keenness comparable to his favourite skew chisel.

After 21 years in the navy, Ted retired and joined IBM where he worked for 13 years involved in the management of building maintenance and emergency procedures. He admits that he eventually "got bored" and left IBM to set up his own business remodeling old houses, well before shows like "Auction Squad".



Ted with one of his dogs, Rusty

Ted has taught various courses at Evening Colleges including woodturning and router work and is the chief instructor at our Monday evening classes which are open to all members. He is still amazed at the number of his past students that approach him and he has always experienced a deep satisfaction watching past students develop and their standards improve.

When asked if there was anything that he would like to see happen at our club, he responded: "We should see more variety in the turning. For example, using different chucks and expanding horizons in different aspect of turning. In other words, think outside the square circle."

