

# WestTurn News

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

Issue 57, June 2004.

Western & Blue Mountains Region

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## Regional Committee 2004:

**Convenor:** Bill Swindail  
9864 1620

**Secretary:** Harry Cole

**Treasurer:** Greg Maloney

**Regional Rep:** Larry Bailey  
9622 6140

**Member:** Ted Edwards

## Events Co-ordination: Alan

Phelps is the events Co-ordination contact for this Region. So if Alan approaches you to help please assist.

**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:** is being looked after by Graham Dawes and Ted Edwards. Please let them know if you find any problems with any of the machinery in the hall.

**Editor:** The newsletter is being put together by Larry Bailey. Articles can be e-mailed to [susanjoanb@msn.com](mailto:susanjoanb@msn.com)

or give to a committee member who will pass them on to me.

## Sick List:

If anyone knows of any of our members or their partners who are on the sick list, let **Graham Murray** (4658 0563) know, and he will send them a get well message from the Region.

## Committee Meeting:

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

Next meeting **6<sup>th</sup> July**.

## Committee Report:

The committee has agreed to purchase a trolley to move the two GPW lathes around for future demonstrations.

The club tools are permitted for new members & those learning to turn for a period of 8 weeks.

## Western/Blue Mtns Region Calendar for 2004:

Third **Sunday** every month from 10.00am

Every **Wednesday** from 10.00am.

Every Second & Fourth **Friday Night** of the month. Starting 7.00pm.

## MAY 16

Theme for show & tell was something under 50mm. Show & Tell was conducted by Alan Phelps.

**Des Page:** made several small items, 2 lidded boxes, 2 goblets and a thimble from various woods.

**Don Hughes:** made a gavel & striker from Gidgee finished with friction polish.

**Toby McIlwain:** made a mini Vinnie the Viking from various timbers finished with friction polish.

**John Malysiak:** made a segmented platter from, Robina, Mulberry, Jacaranda, Plum & Teak finished with sprayed on estapol.

**Tony Maberly:** made a gavel stand from Jacaranda, Pine & Tallowood finished with friction polish. (not quite 50mm but close).

**Malcolm Clark:** made three lidded bowls, two from Liquid Amber, one from Camphor Laurel all finished with friction polish.

**Anna Dawes:** made a lidded box & top. Anna also brought

along a mouse & tiny natural edge bowl.

Leigh Ferguson & his son (Wood-eze) attended selling their wares.

### JUNE 20

Swap meet. Theme for show & tell will be a **Gavel**. Please fill out the green slip so this person knows who did what.

### JULY 18

Bring your tools, as this will be a hands on day. Theme for show & tell will be **Spoons / Ladles**

### AUGUST

?? will be demonstrating. Theme for show & tell will be **Laminated / Segmented Turnings**

### SEPTEMBER

Bring your tools, as this will be a hands on day. Theme for show & tell will be **Goblets (two the same)**.

### OCTOBER

? will be demonstrating. Theme for show & tell will be a **Bowl on a Pedestal**.

### NOVEMBER 21

We have invited Leigh Ferguson (Wood-eze) back to sell his wares.

### Past Demonstrations:

Our members have participated in the following demonstrations. The details are as follows:

### **Blacktown Festival 29<sup>th</sup> May.**

Well several of us turned up at 7.00am on this cool Saturday morning to unload Bobs van and set up for what looked likely to be a great day.

Well when all was set up and changed around as we had a huge area set-aside for us.

The day was good in as much as those attending got some turning done but the location turned out to be a letdown as we didn't get that many visitors. As we were set between the stage area on the Village Green and Campbell Street we only managed to attract people walking between these areas.

Well I think we enjoyed ourselves anyway but it was a long day although it was mentioned that the Spanish dancers were worth watching.

Thanks to all who helped out on the day and hopefully all the building works will be finished next year and we will be in a better position to show off our skills and wares.



You can see that Toby was busy making his whistles again plus more of our display.



Alan Phelps.



Some of our display on the day



Neil Guthrie.



Bowls made by Neil Guthrie.

Almost forgot to mention that both Alan Phelps & Malcolm Clark gave our club a bit of

exposure when interviewed on the local radio station that was up near us. Well-done.

### Future Demonstrations:

Our members have been asked to participate in the following demonstrations:

### June 19/20, 26/27 July 3/4

We have been asked to participate with the Peninsula Region at Auburn Mega Mart once again. Display items for sale are required. Please note that all items should be of a good quality. It is expected that if you wish to sell items that you attend at least one of the days and help with the stand. For more details please see Bill Swindail.

### MEMBERS AND VISITORS:

Welcome to our new members and any visitors today.

We hope that you enjoy yourselves at this meeting and, indeed, many other meetings that you may attend at this region and at our other regions.

### Safety Instruction:

**In line with Work Cover, OH & S practices, and pure, simple common sense, NO ONE is to attend workshop type meetings or any Guild function wearing thongs, sandals, or open foot wear.**

**\*\*Please note: Current first aid officers are:**

**Ted Edwards  
Larry Bailey**

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### **ITEMS FOR SALE**

**Sandpaper** – Various grades at \$6.00 metre.

**Wood** – as priced on the rack on the stage.

**End Sealer** - \$4.00 per litre.

**Friction Polish** - \$10.00 per 250 ml. Bottle.

**Scrapers & Parting Tools** – Range of round & square end \$30.00 ea.

Please see Bill Swindail if you wish to make a purchase

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### *For Sale*

Triton Powered Respirator, New Cost \$270.00 will sell for \$200.00

Also Hamlet Rolled Edge Skew, 2060 HSS, Excaliber Range. Lasts up to five times longer between sharpenings used only a couple of times, as new Cost \$73.00 will sell for \$50.00

Contact Alan Phelps

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### **PROPERTIES OF SPECIES OF SOME WOODS CONT.**

#### **Basswood, White:**

A small hardwood of the coastal rainforests of New South Wales and Queensland. Similar in appearance to silver basswood nut not as dense. East to work Main uses are internal joinery and veneer.

#### **Black Bean:**

A large hardwood of the rainforests from northern New South Wales through to north Queensland. Very little now available in New South Wales. Heartwood dark brown to almost black, relieved by paler streaks of the soft tissue surrounding the pores. Sapwood to 75mm wide and pale yellow. Texture moderately coarse. Grain

usually straight. Greasy to the touch. Heart shakes are common in the logs. The sanding dust is very irritant to nose and skin so good ventilation is essential. Its greasy nature may interfere with adhesives. Uses are, furniture, decorative veneer, carving, paneling and fancy turnery.

#### **Beech, Canary:**

Medium sized hardwoods of the Queensland rainforests. Heartwood pale yellow. Fine texture. Straight grain. Used for internal joinery.

#### **Beech, European:**

A hardwood common throughout Europe. Heartwood pale brown, sapwood creamy and not clearly distinguishable. The heat of kiln drying can change the colour of the heartwood to reddish brown. Texture fine and even. Grain usually straight. The ends of the large rays give a characteristic fleck to the tangential surface. Turns well. Easy to glue. Used for furniture (especially bentwood chairs), veneer, flooring, joinery, tool handles, brush backs, handles, wrest planks for pianos, shoe heels, decorative turnery.

#### **Beech, Myrtle:**

Other common name: Tasmanian myrtle.

A medium sized hardwood of the heavier rainfall areas of Tasmania and eastern Victoria. Heartwood pink to reddish brown. Sapwood almost white, and narrow. Texture fine and even. Grain sometimes wavy. Growth rings visible but not prominent. Little figure. Moderate working properties.

Glues satisfactorily. Good for steam bending, carving and turnery except for a tendency to bruise on the end grain. Used for furniture, veneer, joinery, turnery, carving, flooring, paneling, handles, piano bridges.

### **Beech, Negrohead:**

A large hardwood of the moist tops of the coastal ranges northward from Barrington Tops near Gloucester, New South Wales, to southern Queensland. Heartwood pink to reddish brown. Sapwood usually distinctly paler, variable in width up to 40 mm wide. Texture fine and even. Grain straight. Rather hard to work. Needs care in nailing and gluing. Used for flooring, paneling, turnery, plywood. Seldom milled.

### **Beech, New Guinea:**

Important hardwood species of Papua New Guinea. Heartwood pinkish brown to reddish brown. Sapwood cream to pale yellow. Texture fine and even. Grain usually straight. Used for furniture, flooring, joinery, handles, turnery, veneer.

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### **Secrets to a Perfect Relationship**

1. It is important that a man helps you around the house and has a job.
2. It is important that a man makes you laugh.
3. It is important to find a man you can count on and doesn't lie to you.
4. It is important that a man is good in bed and loves making love to you.

5. It is really important that these four men don't know each other.

**George Wells**

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### **Wood Finishing By Alan Phelps**

This article is continued from last month's newsletter-

**First Coat:** liberally apply the oil to the surface any way you please. Pad, rag or just pour it on. Spread it round to soak in. If you wish you can get some 600 wet & dry and thoroughly sand the surface. This will help the oil soak in plus form a slurry of wood dust and oil that will help fill the pores. As the oil is soaked up keep adding oil for around half an hour letting it soak in until you feel that it won't take much more. Wait until the oil starts to become tacky then wipe the excess off with a rag. Allow this to dry overnight or longer.

**Second Coat:** You can sand lightly between coats with 600 wet & dry if you wish. Apply oil liberally to the surface and let soak in until tacky. Use 600 on any rough spots. Remove surplus with a rag moistened with oil leaving a wet surface

**Successive Coats:** Keep applying as before until you bring up to the gloss you want. You will probably never get to a gloss like surface, some of the pores and grain will show, but this adds to the character of the finish.

It's probably best to finish with a wax polish this gives the final touch. There will be no brush marks, dust spots, runs or

faults. This is due to the wiping action to finish every coat.

It will probably take a week or so to fully harden. This finish looks particularly good on furniture and woodturnings, especially bowls. But as I said it takes a long time.

**Penetrol:** Is a good all round additive. For instance add about 20% to 30% to Polyurethane (estapol or similar) and this helps the finish brush on smoother and better so there is no brush marks. Also when staining with the spirit stains or pigmented stains (Wattyl Color Wood or Craftsman series) add about 10% and it seems to make for a better more even penetration but it slows down the drying time.

### **Recipe for your own Wood Oil:**

Take equal parts of;

- (a) Tung oil, preferably polymerized, this dries quicker.
- (b) Polyurethane (Estapol or similar)

Mix together and add some Turps just to thin the mixture out a bit and you now have an oil equal to or better than most of the Brand names.

**My next article will be about my favorite finish, a friction polish that I make myself.**

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### **News as it happens**

Bill Swindail has developed a new woodturning tool. This one is a multi tool that can be used as a roughing gouge that planes, beads, coves, scrapes and sings and dances. It is made from 1/2 inch high-speed

steel and looks like a detail gouge without the groove up the centre of the shaft and is sharpened in a similar fashion.

The prototype is at present undergoing exhaustive evaluation trials in our workshop. It will then go into our production facility where it will be hand crafted by a master craftsman.

Information from a reliable source says that it will be internationally known as the 'Swindailmaster'.

So watch the Newsletter for further developments.

### **More News as it happens**

#### **The 'Tedal' Bowl Gouge**

Ted Edwards and Alan Phelps are working on a new style bowl gouge.

This one could be a winner. The prototype is at present going through exhaustive evaluation trials. A limited number are in our production facility at present.

This tool is made from 13mm dia Bohler S 600 high speed steel, one of the finest steels available. The machined profile is very different to a standard gouge. When sharpened gives two cutting spurs, one on either side of the cutting edge. The result is a razor like cutting action with no end grain tear out and a very smooth finish. Conversely by presenting the tool at a very low angle it acts a bit like a roughing gouge and removes a lot of material quickly. So it is sort of two tools in one.

The cutting tips are screwed into the end of the shaft and can be renewed when worn out. The handles are hand crafted from some beautiful Red Ash donated by John Galati.

We will keep you posted on this. It looks like it will be a very useful addition to our already great range of tools available to our members.

**Alan Phelps.**

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#### ***Ladies' Day at Lalor Park, 29<sup>th</sup> May.***

Six enthusiastic ladies had an instructive and entertaining day learning to turn on two axes in order to make ducks, after first having a demonstration by Graeme Dawes, who brought his own little family of ducks along, to our delight and amusement. We all agreed that watching and then doing certainly beats struggling to interpret the written instructions encountered in some books! Graeme's careful and patient tuition was very much appreciated. Thanks also to Ted Edwards who makes himself available at all our meetings. We hope to make the chips fly at our next meeting on July 31 when we plan to turn natural edge burl bowls.

**June McKimmie**

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### **TURNING CLASSES**

We encourage all beginners to seek help, ask questions and enjoy what we hope will be a great hobby.

If you are interested in joining classes please see **Bill Swindail.**

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### **SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS**

The Southern Highlands Region is 10 years old this year and will be having a celebration day on September 25<sup>th</sup> at Bowral. Also see brochure at front desk.

### **WOODTURN 2004**

Brochures are now available at the desk as you enter the hall. Book early or miss out.

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Please remember than **NO** member can commit the Region to participate in any demonstration or event without first presenting to the committee. Guild approval is also required for insurance purposes.

**Convenor**

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### **PROJECT**

In this issue and coming issues I will try to attach a project that I would like to see at our Sunday show & tell along with that days theme. I would like to keep these project items on display for a couple of months (you will get them back). This months project supplied by Bill Swindail.

**Larry**