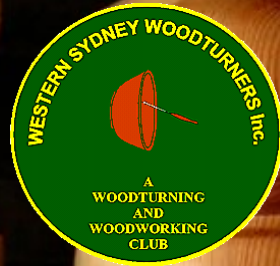


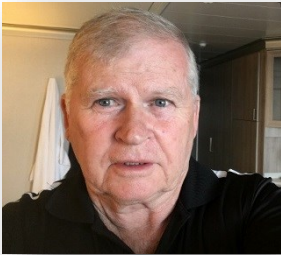
WesTurn News

The official organ of Western Sydney Woodturners Inc.

Issue: 271



January 2024



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.au

“What’s this” I hear you say, “A January Newsletter. Never been done before, why now?” Well might we say “Why a January Newsletter, it’s never been done before, why now?”

Just because it hasn’t happened before doesn’t mean it can’t be done as long as there is a very good reason. In late November last year I was approached by an events company that is based in Victoria (Craft Alive) to come on board as an exhibitor similar to what we have now with Expertise Events. They are a craft exhibitor and were very keen to have us as exhibitors. As we are the largest wood turning group in NSW and because Expertise Events has only, so far that is, announced one event for this year, I took it to the Committee for their input as well as talking to other interested parties for their opinion. To cut a long story short most felt that trying a new event provider was a good idea so I contacted the people concerned and told them we would participate. As you can appreciate I haven’t been given much time to let everyone know and because we don’t have a meeting in January and given that it’s a quiet month anyway this is the reason for this newsletter being sent out. The event we are exhibiting at is in February at the Rosehill Racecourse to be held on the 15th, 16th and 17th. I’ll be the organiser so any queries you have please contact me so I can sort it for you. We have been allocated a large space, 10 meters square approximately and in a favourable position. We are classed as a not for profit organisation and a community based group so we are not paying for floor space but we are allowed to sell charity bowls and our **own products**. There will be a 10% fee on members sales but no fee for selling charity items. For members who have already been to Expertise Events you’ll know how it is organised and very little is different. Besides Sydney, there are also several other events planned for NSW that we have agreed to attend. They are, Canberra, Newcastle, Hawkesbury, Illawarra and Orange but the latter two aren’t available in 2024. Dates are still to be announced for the first 3.

There’s a notice on the board at the Club so if you are interested place your name there. As already stated if you have questions don’t hesitate to contact me.

Until I see you at the Club stay safe and stay well ...

Les Coombes (President)

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.

ARTICLES FOR NEWSLETTER

Could I please ask those members who attend our demonstrations, maxi-days etc; if you could take some photographs and a brief description of the event so these can be published in the newsletter I am sure all members would be interested in reading about the events of the day. Thank you.....Editor.



CUT OFF DATE FOR ARTICLES

Please note the cut off date for articles to be included in the Newsletter is the last day of the month.

All members are welcome to submit articles for inclusion.

Please send them to the editor;

Email address: augoodtime@hotmail.com

Club Committee

President: Les Coombes
(0408760131)

Vice Presidents: John Kostrzewa and
Paul Collins

Secretary: Jen Coombes

Treasurer: Andrea McFarlane

Public Officer: Sandra Ongley
sandraongley21@gmail.com

Librarian: Rod Brown

Editor: Robert Ryan
ramnet2759@bigpond.com

Webmaster: Les Coombes
wswtpresident@outlook.com

Training Co-Ordinator: Greg Sheath

Trainers: Graham Dawes (JP), Rod
Brown, Ron Devine, Greg Sheath, Rob
Stewart, George Manou, Bob Taylor &
Bob Young.

Shop Manager:

Les Coombes

Equipment Maintenance:

Cindy Kersatis, (Coordinator)
Manny Farrugia, Dave Matthews,
Graham Dawes (JP), Bob Young, Ron
Devine, Glenn Freeman and George
Manou.

Welfare Officer: Branka Hedges

Membership Secretary: Branka
Hedges 0416 020 290

brankahedges@aol.com

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

Club Hours

Mon-Thurs: 8:30am – 4pm....\$5

Friday Nights: 5pm – 9pm....\$3

Saturday Turning

Ladies Day: 2nd Saturday...\$5

Contact: Anna Dawes

0409 460 693

annafdawes@hotmail.com

4th Saturday of Month

8.30am – 4.00pm...\$5

Every member welcome

Contact: Les Coombes

0404 001 562

Club Meetings

Shop items

- ⇒ Ozzie Grit
- ⇒ Friction Polish
- ⇒ Sanding Sealer
- ⇒ Sandpaper
- ⇒ Club Shirts
- ⇒ Dust Jackets
- ⇒ Club Badges
- ⇒ Pen Kits
- ⇒ Pen Blanks – Acrylics
- ⇒ Lazy Susan Bearings
- ⇒ Cheese Knives
- ⇒ Salt Mills
- ⇒ Pepper Mills

**Many more items also
available**



Why is a banjo called Banjo?

Nobody really knows, but there are references to it as early
as 1846.

Does anybody at the club know why?

A very big thank you
to Michelle Rowland MP,
the Member for Greenway,
for her continued support
which includes the
printing of this newsletter.

Craft Alive

SYDNEY 2024

THE BASICS

WHEN

Thursday 15 – Saturday
17 February

WHERE

Exhibition Hall
Rosehill Gardens Racecourse
James Ruse Dr
Rosehill NSW 2142

SHOW HOURS

9.30am – 4pm daily

BUMP IN

10am – 5.30pm
Wed 14 February

PARKING

Ample free venue parking

LIGHTING

Lighting is good but additional
lights will make a site 'pop'

FLOORING

Venue is carpeted

THE VENUE



ROSEHILL GARDENS RACECOURSE

One of Western Sydney's most vibrant venues with ample free parking, nearby hotel accommodation, close proximity to the geographical centre of Sydney (Parramatta City) and easy access to Sydney's CBD.

POPULATION

Rosehill Gardens is located in the heart of the demographic centre of Sydney.

Urban Sydney has a population of 4.7M and has slightly more females at 50.5% with a median age of 36.

ECONOMY

The Racecourse is located in Sydney's Western Suburbs, but attracts visitors from all over the city. Sydney is Australia's largest Capital City and NSW is the largest State economy.

HISTORY

2024 is the inaugural CraftAlive Sydney however CraftAlive is very familiar with the location and audience having delivered multiple successful events at Rosehill Gardens and across Greater Sydney.

ABOUT THE HALL

The Exhibition Hall is a pillarless and light filled venue opening out onto ample green spaces overlooking the vibrant Rosehill Gardens. With high ceilings, a wealth of space, amenities and state-of-the-art connectivity.

ph: 03 9682 5133 • info@craftalive.com.au

WWW.CRAFTALIVE.COM.AU

Happy New Year

Here is some inspiration to get you started for 2024.





Hot Topic From the Internet . . .

(This to encourage discussion. The comments and opinions of others are theirs alone and should not be considered instruction r advice.)

What do you think? Drop me an email and I will publish member opinions

When I'm at the club 'turning', many of the more experienced turners will often stick their head over my shoulder and ask: "What are you turning?" Inevitably, my reply is: "a Bowl" or "a platter" or "just practicing". This conversation is inevitably followed (with much appreciation on my part) with advice, tips and instruction and ultimately an appraisal of my finished piece later in the day. This, in my opinion, is what makes for a great club and better outcomes. Please keep it up.

This experience, together with my countless hours reading about turning and watching Youtube videos has brought to the fore a whole new vocabulary relating to this '*mysterious*' activity of woodturning. I, and I'm sure other inexperienced turners are sometimes not clear about what others are talking about when they use terminology they are unfamiliar with.

Here are a few terms with definitions that might help:

Bowl = Rim open to largest diameter

Dish = very shallow bowl, small

Platter = a very shallow bowl, big

Openform = Opening larger than the base but smaller than the maximum diameter.

Hollowform = Opening equal or smaller than the base and significantly less than the maximum diameter.

Pot = Height equals diameter and opening is equal or close to maximum diameter, just kind of square in proportion.

Vase = Significantly taller than the max diameter and opening is qual or close to the diameter of the top of the vessel.

Urn = Vase like in height or proportion but fits hollowform definition.

Box = has lid that fits fairly tightly, small

Lidded vessel = Openform, pot or vase with a lid, bigger than a box, lid fits rather lossely.

Art = A woodturned item priced proudly.

Craft = A woodturned item priced modestly.

Junk = a turning currently in flight across the shop. Ie 'Houston we have a problem'.



Wise Words

It is the policy of my team of dedicated team of reporters that this column not include any religious views or comment. However in the interests of safety our international roving reporter, Miss Sarah Safety, has insisted that I include the following which she saw displayed on a church notice board in France.

“When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear “the call of God.” However, it is unlikely that he will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him. If you want to see him, send Him a text while you are driving.”

Who would be a Teacher??

Teacher: Maria, go to the map and find North America.

Maria: Here, sir.

Teacher: Correct. Class who discovered America?

Class: Maria

Teacher: Glen, How do you spell crocodile?

Glen: K R O K O D I A L

Teacher: That is not correct.

Glen: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

Teacher: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

Donald: H I J K L M N O

Teacher: What are you talking about?

Donald: Sir, yesterday you said it is H to O.

Teacher: Clyde, your composition on “My Dog” is exactly the same as your brother’s. Did you copy his composition?

Clyde: No, Sir. It is the same dog.

Teacher: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested.

Harold: A Teacher.

Quote of the Month:

Holding a grudge doesn’t make you strong; It makes you bitter. Forgiving doesn’t make you weak; It sets you free.

Author: Unknown Must Fly Woodchip

A Brief history of woodturning

The hobby of woodturning which we all enjoy as members and also for personal pleasure can be traced back many thousands of years to around 1300 B.C. This was when the Egyptians first developed a two person lathe.

This design was improved by the Romans with the addition of a turning bow. Early bow lathes were also developed and used in Britain, France and Germany. In the middle ages a pedal replaced hand operated turning allowing the craftsmen to use both hands to hold the turning tools. This pedal was connected to a pole which often consisted of a straight – grained sapling. This system is known today as “Spring-pole lathe” Believe it or not these Spring pole lathes were in common use until the 20th Century.

The Woodturner’s who used these pole lathes became known as “Bodgers” which is believed to be derived from an Old German word known as “Botticher” which means Cooper. During the 19th Century there were hundreds of bodgers set up their lathes in the woods around High Wycombe where legs would be turned for chairs and tables.

Furthermore, they were also found in many other areas of Wales and England with Buckinghamshire being the most common shire. Today the common usage of the word Bodger is to describe a person who starts a job but does not complete it. This makes perfect sense because the original Bodgers only did part of the work namely they only make part of the chair but not the whole article.

Turned articles have been very important to many generations consisting of such things as pulley blocks, staircase parts, farm equipment, drinking vessels, furniture and musical instruments.

Believe it or not but there were standards to be adhered to when making measuring vessels that were implemented by the city of London in 1347. Each turner had to place their identification mark on these vessels for examination purposes.

Leonardo Da Vinci around 1480 was also credited sketching a form of a mechanical lathe with a crankshaft plus a large fly wheel. It can be assumed these designs were the forerunners of the lathes we have today. The industrial revolution with population explosion led to the manufacture of high output machines which became the basis for main stream industrial woodturning with specialised Companies spring up. Today woodturning is very much a hobby and enjoyed by thousands of people such as us.

Thanks

David Searle 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 publications.

Turnfest 2024

22nd, 23rd and 24th March 2024

Australia's Premier Woodturning Event

Registration includes all meals and 2 nights accommodation at the Sea World Resort, Gold Coast

Turnfest offers 3 days of woodturning demonstrations by many renowned woodturners and carving professionals from Australia and the world.

100 demonstrations and seminars are on offer where each rotation is repeated so attendees can choose from the different styles of turning, carving and pyrography. See the amazing instant gallery of pieces brought to the event by the attendees and presenters. Visit the onsite Tool Shop stocked with a large range of equipment including unique tools used by our international presenters which are not readily available in Australia.

The woodturning clinic will be held in the Tool Shop area on Thursday and Friday to entertain you while we turn the resort into a woodturning haven.

On the closing day, a draw will be held of works donated by many of the presenters and suppliers.



Piece by Ian Moss, Western Australia

Presenters

International Presenters

Curt Thebald USA, Kip Christensen USA
Phil Irons England, Rebecca DeGroot USA, Rex Birmingham USA, Cynthia Carden USA,
Mark Hancock England / USA

Australian Presenters

Paul Barton Vic, Gary Field Qld, Len Mengel Qld,
David Drescher Qld, Jim McConnachie Qld,
Dave Barden NSW, Robert McKee Qld,
Jan Palmowski NSW
Plus Clinic Presenter: Ian Moss WA



Non Turning Partners

While you may not be a woodturner, there are plenty of activities for you. There is a craft room or you can have a massage and laze around the pool. Partners have full access to Turnfest activities and all meals. All participants are charged the same price to keep the total price to a minimum so no one is disadvantaged.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Member #	Title	First Name	Surname
1126	Mr.	Allan	Kirkland
2446	Mr.	Mark	Dunn
2544	Mr.	Raymond	Saich
2573	Mr.	Fred	de Jonge
2630	Mr.	Russell	Werner
2822	Mr.	John	Connaughton
2858	Mr.	Lloyd	Ives
3872	Miss	Joyleen	Clapham
3902	Mr.	Naveen	Sharma
4030	Mr	Sanjay	Singhai
4038	Ms.	Helen	Hunter
4054	Mr.	Stephen	Holmes



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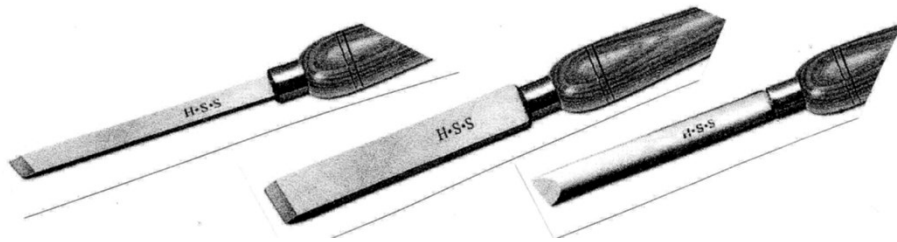
Opening Hours
ALL WELCOME!!
 Mon– Fri 8am-4pm
 Sat 8am-11.30am
 Closed
 Public Holidays &
 Long Weekends

THE BACK PAGE

KNOW YOUR TOOLS

ITEM 33 THE SKEW

JANUARY 2024



The dreaded SKEW. You either love it or loathe it either way it is one of the first 6 tools you buy either in a kit or individual purchase. As indicated above the skew can be wide, narrow or oval in cross section. The parts of the chisel you will hear refer to are the “long point” or “toe” and the “short point” or “heel” this can be argumentative between turners. There is also the “cutting edge” or “blade” depending where you have had instructions. The skew is mainly used for cutting beads but can be used for planing, as a scraper (professionals would be horrified to hear that but I have seen them do it) and a parting tool. Over the years many turners have tried many grinds and ultimately agreed on 70 - 75 degrees angle for the cutting edge and a 25 degree concave grind on an 8” wheel. In recent times there has been an attempt to change the grind from concave to convex and even a flat grind, at this stage the jury is still out however I have had a more positive feedback from the new age turners than the old school turners as they feel it is more forgiving and less likely to dig in or skew off. The professionals will argue that if you use it properly you won’t have any troubles but we are not all professionals and in a lot of cases look for something that will do the job equally as good with a lot less worry and disasters. I am not advocating for a moment that you leave the skew in the tool box as it is a very useful tool and you will get better at using it the more you practice.

As this page is directed to the learner and experienced hobby turner I prefer and encourage you to use jigs for sharpening as free hand sharpening can only come with years of experience and even with some professionals there have been some shockers with more grinds on the face than I have had birthdays and that is ok if it’s your tool and you can use it that way but for the average hobby turner do yourself a favour and use a jig.

Confidence comes with practice and I suggest you try using the cutting edge at the bottom 1/3 closest to the “short point” first, then the middle and the top 1/3. Paying particular attention when using the top section near to the “long point” as this is the area that catches and causes the most problems, also adjust the angles when planeing to get the best cutting action taking particular attention to having the bevel (the back section of the grind) rubbing to give that nice smooth finish.

Remember practice approach, angles and position, satisfaction and confidence will follow.

Eddie C.

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 publications.

Eddie C