

WesTurn News

The official organ of Western Sydney

Issue: 292



November 2025

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

The last training course for the year has just finished – well done Mario, Eddie and Pieter and welcome to the Club. Take a look at the photos of the training on page 5.

I've commenced work on the lathe toolboxes. Rather than a "shadow board" which would have blocked a good portion of the air flow through the metal mesh situated between the aisles, I decided to modify the existing boxes. By removing the lid and front of the box, members will easily be able to see what is in their toolbox and therefore readily identify anything missing or in excess. I will create a laminated check list for each box, but it will be up to the members to pleaseeee check the contents and report any errors. If you borrow something from another toolbox (oh yes, it certainly does happen on a regular basis, and we all know it!!!) would you please remember to return it. If the toolbox chaos continues, we might need to allocate tools to a specific lathe and label them as such. I may need to drill some new holes in the boxes, but please leave that to me because I have plans. Once they've had a lick of paint and checklists attached, they will look a whole lot better – but remember to sweep or vacuum out the sawdust/shavings.

Unfortunately the SawStop brake has been activated twice within the last two weeks. At the moment a new brake cartridge costs \$169 and the saw blade is also typically damaged during the process, so the cost is even higher. Please use care with this saw – the brake is activated by moisture – could be the wood isn't sufficiently dry, could be your finger got too close to the blade (it doesn't have to actually touch it). Fingers shouldn't be *anywhere near* the blade unless the machine is turned OFF at the power point and the blade has come to a full STOP. Always check the moisture level of your wood. If in doubt, don't use it or ask someone else for help.

Continued on Page 5 ...

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: Cindy Kersaitis
(0408760131)

Vice Presidents: John
Kostrzewa and George Manou

Secretary: Andrea McFarland

Treasurer: Andrea McFarland

Club Hours

Mon-Fri: 8:30am – 3pm....\$5

Friday Nights: 5pm – 9pm....\$5

Please note: these hours are approximate and the Club will not remain open when fewer than three members are present

Saturday Turning

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

Contact: Robyn Mahoney

0411 845 776

robynmahoney@hotmail.com

Club Meetings

7pm second Tuesday of each month except January.

All members welcome



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



A very big thank you

to Michelle Rowland MP, the Member for Greenway, for her continued support which includes the printing of this newsletter.

Christmas and New Year Closure

We will close over the Christmas and New Year period – 19th December will be the last turning day, then reopening on Monday 5th January.

CLUB CONVENORS

Monday	Bob Young	Thursday	Eddie Catford
Tuesday	Bob Young	Friday	Don Nixon
Wednesday	Greg Sheath	Friday (PM)	John Kostrzewa

OTHER CONTACTS

Public Officer:

Sandra Ongley
sandraongley21@gmail.com

Grants Officer:

Sandra Ongley

Librarian:

Rod Brown

Editor:

Bob Ryan
augoodtime@hotmail.com

Webmaster:

Matthew Keen
mkeen21@gmail.com

Training Co-Ordinator:

Greg Sheath

Trainers: Graham Dawes (JP), Rod Brown, Ron Devine, Cindy Kersaitis, Robyn Mahoney, George Manou, Don Nixon, Greg Sheath, Rob Stewart, & Bob Young.

Liaison and Contact Officers

Security— Eddie Catford

Insurance—David Searle

Craft Alive—Andrea McFarland

Linnwood House—Dave Matthews

Koi Society—David Searle

Bunnings BBQ—Andrea McFarland

Shop Manager:

Cindy Kersaitis

Equipment Maintenance Coordinator

Bob Young

Maintenance Officers: Rod Brown, Eddie Catford, Graham Dawes, Ron Devine, Manny Farrugia, Cindy Kersaitis, George Manou & Bob Young.

Welfare Officer:

Viv Tabone
0414557776
mrsparky1@bigpond.com

Membership Secretary:

Viv Tabone

Catering Coordinator

Vacant

Maxi Days

Vacant

Kitchen & Cleaning Supplies

Ian Frith

Ladies Day Coordinator

Robyn Mahoney

First Aid Supplies

Robyn Mahoney

On a positive note – we have a sign up sheet on the board for the Christmas Party at Wenty Leagues on Sunday 7th December. We can't book a table, so George and I will get there early to push some tables together in the main food hall



area (come through main front foyer then turn left down the travelator). We'll push together enough tables for the names on the list, so please make sure you put your name up by Wed 3rd



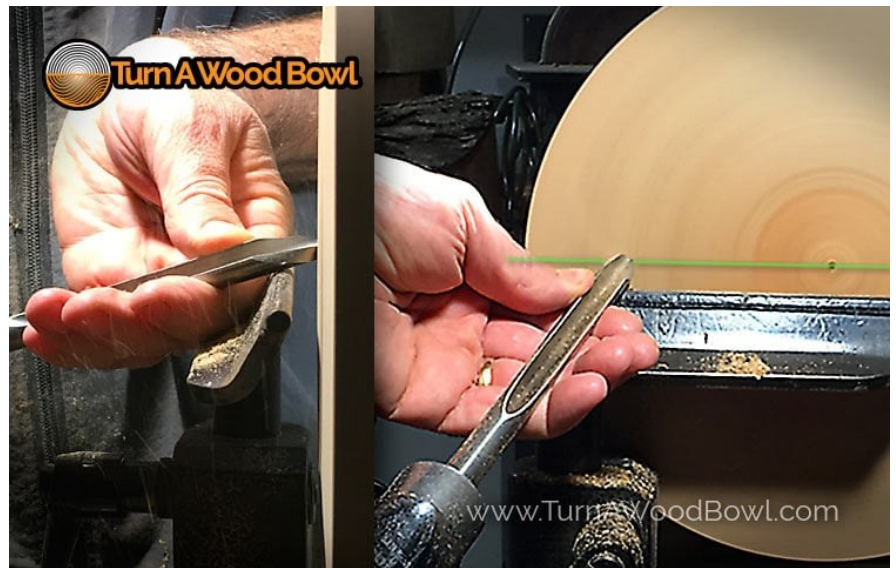
December at the very latest. There's a variety of outlets you can buy your lunch from, so you should be able to find something to your liking!

We will close over the Christmas and New Year period – 19th December will be the last turning day, then reopening on Monday 5th January. Cindy





To maintain tools control and eliminate unnecessary errors when turning it is a good idea to get into the practice of adjusting the tool rests on a regular basis maintaining a close gap at the work piece to stop over reaching. Continue this practice when turning around corners and facing off the end. The thickness of a pencil is accepted as an all round distance however this may vary from turner to turner. Eddie C.



Editors Note: You might also consider changing the tool rest to one of a different shape for those hard to reach places.

Members Welfare Report

The welfare of members and their families is important to our club. Please let me know if you or someone you know is unwell, or worse still, no longer with us.

Get Well Cards have been sent to the following Members and/Or Partners

Trevern Dawes and Bob Young

We wish everyone a Speedy Recovery.

A Sympathy card was sent this month to

Nil this month

New members this month

Nicholas Gregson

Viv Tabone is the Welfare Officer. If you become aware of the need for get well and sympathy cards, please let her know at her email address:

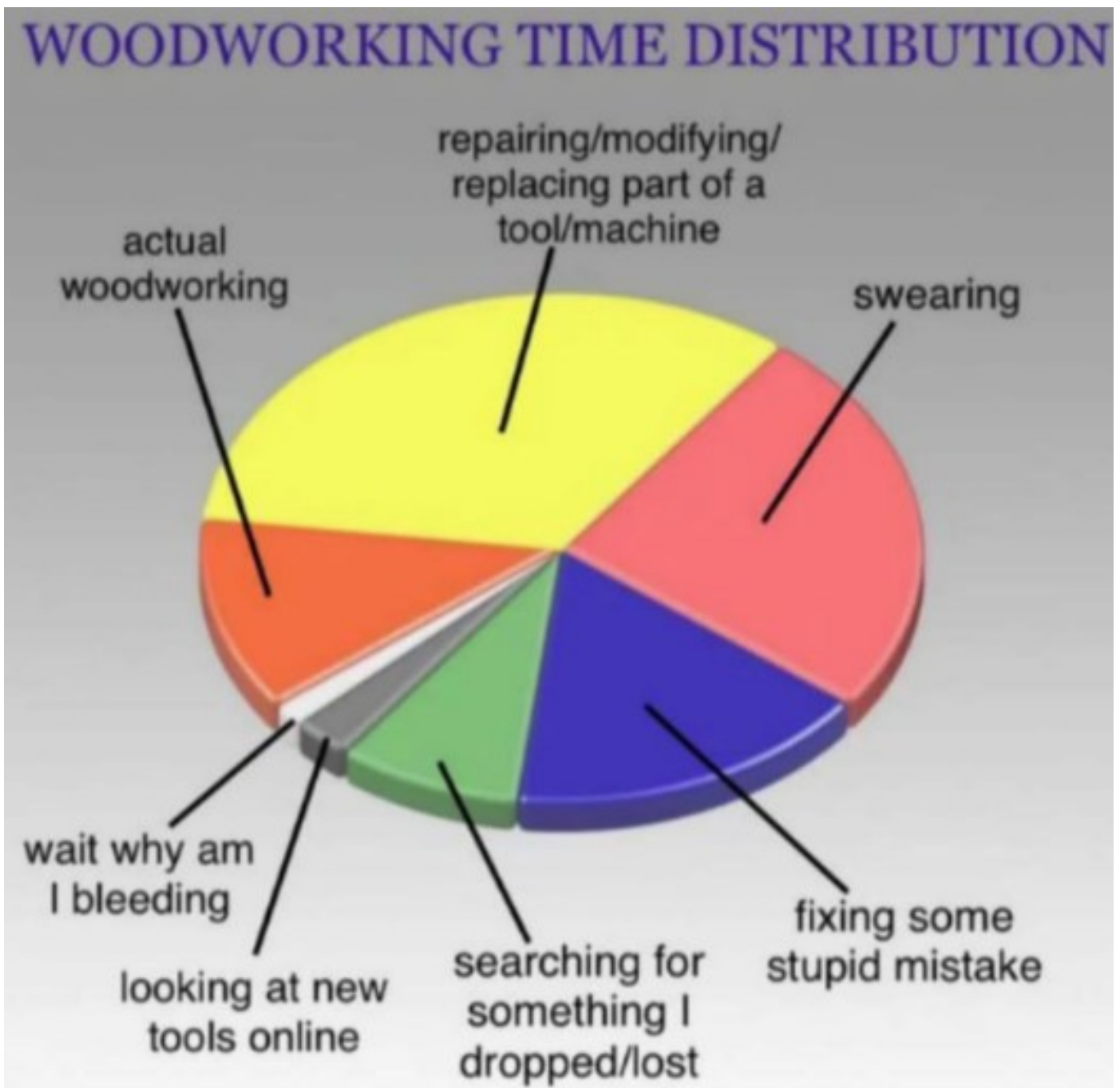
mrsparky1@bigpond.com

or



Come one, Come All
Sunday, 7 December 2025
11am
WSWT Christmas Party
at
Wenty Leagues Club

Jokes of the Month



What do you call Santa when he's on the beach in Australia?

Sandy Claus!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Member #	Title	First Name	Surname
2324	Mr.	Robert	Young
2545	Mr.	Johannes	Freke
2665	Mr.	Paul	Collins
2777	Mr.	John	de Vos
2794	Mr.	Paul	de Belle
3777	Ms.	Cara	Danis
3792	Ms.	Guyue	Liu
3814	Mr.	Alan	Piper
3893 S	Mr.	Cody	Catford
4080	Mr	Tong	Ding



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Long Weekends

WOOD GLUE GUIDE

Perhaps the most frequent club activity (other than actual turning) is the glueing up of 2 or more pieces of timber in preparation for actual turning a masterpiece.

Last week while there, I happened to look at two pieces of bench top that had been glued together and clamped with about 8 or so clamps.

As I looked at it, I realised that the glueing up had been an abject failure and could in fact be very dangerous if spinning on a lathe. An example (not from a club member) of a glue failure is in the image to the right.



So I went looking for an article for the newsletter that gives members some more insight about glues, techniques. While it is written for an American audience, there are still many lessons for our members. My apologies for the length of the article.

[wcms scuttlebutt 2-4 Apr'21 - Microsoft Publisher](#)

This article is to follow up on Clif Munro' s Techie Tip on "Glueing Up" (Scuttlebutt November 2020 Vol.1 Issue 11) to help understand different types of glues used in woodworking. An old article found on the internet has been used in writing the report, its source could not be ascertained.

All glues have a finite shelf life. Once it's open, it's only good for about a year. If you notice that the glue starts to smell sour and becomes extremely thick or stringy, it's past its prime and shouldn't be used.

White Glues And Yellow Glues The most common polyvinyl acetate (PVA) adhesives, commonly While white glue (such as Aquadhere) is a good porous materials, yellow glue (such as Titebond formulated for interior woodworking applications. to as aliphatic resin glue.



furniture making glues are called white and yellow glues. glue that can be used on most Red) has been specifically Yellow glue is usually referred

Neither of these glues work well if a water-resistant bond is required. For that purposes there are water-resistant formulations of yellow glue (such as Titebond Green). These are known as cross-linking PVAs, and they cure through chemical reaction, instead of evaporation. For general woodworking use, this glue is interchangeable with normal yellow glue except that it can't be cleaned up with water after it cures.



While each white or yellow glue can be used in the workshop, aliphatic resin glue (Titebond Red) is the best choice for the beginner. It's easy to use, requires no

mixing, is non-toxic and cleans up with water. It also sands cleanly, without over clogging the sandpaper, and leaves an invisible glue line if the joint is tight (but does leave a yellow stain where the glue is visible). White glue, on the other hand, dries clear.

Hide Glue

Hide glue is made from animal products and it's extremely useful for projects, like musical instruments, that often require disassembly to make repairs. They are the earliest glues and are still used today.

This glue cures slowly, so it can be a good option for difficult joints or constructions that take a long time to assemble, but it releases its bond with heat and moisture (such as humidity). Whilst this makes it easy to separate pieces without damage, in many instances it defeats its own purpose with furniture as it is unable to withstand exposure to the elements.

Epoxies

Two-part epoxies are probably the most durable of all adhesives and for situations where extreme water resistance is required, epoxy is the best choice. It is however the pretty difficult and messy to use. It sometimes comes in a syringe type for relatively equal dispensing of the epoxy components), but and the hardener (the 2 tubes and measuring the sometimes it comes in portions can be difficult. the setting the more secure the adhesive (so 5 minute epoxy is not as secure as 30 minute epoxy). Epoxy glues are quite toxic, so you need to don gloves and a respirator to protect yourself from chemical exposure making epoxies a bad choice for everyday work. They should be only used in well ventilated locations.



Polyurethane

Polyurethane glue is supposed to be well suited to just about any gluing job. This glue per forms unlike any other. It actually cures by being exposed to moisture, so it's a good choice when moisture resistance is an issue. You even have to dampen wood surfaces before applying this glue. This product changes into a foam like substance as it cures and in the process expands out of the joint. This can make sanding away the glue more difficult. Because it's such a new glue, it has no long-term successful track record that other glues enjoy, so it how long



to be well suited This glue per actually cures by it's a good choice issue. You even before applying into a foam like process expands

the adhesion will last is uncertain.

Gluing Techniques

In preparing a glue joint, it's important to keep a couple of ground rules in mind:

1. while modern glues are amazingly strong, if joints do not fit properly or the glue is not allowed to cure correctly, the bond will almost surely fail.
2. less is more. A thin, even layer of glue will form a strong bond between two pieces of wood, but a thick cushion of glue does just the opposite. It weakens the joint. And, usually you won't know if this joint is weak until the piece is done and has been used for a while.

To achieve a successful edge joint, the long mating surfaces must be perfectly tight all along their length. *You shouldn't rely on clamps to pull bowed boards together because this places too much stress on the joint and eventually it will fail.*

The fit of a mortise-and-tenon joint should also be precise, neither too tight nor too loose. If the parts must be forced together, there will be no room for the glue between the pieces and the joint will be starved.

If, on the other hand, there is too much play in the joint, the glue layer will be too thick to perform properly when the piece is placed under stress. In a perfect joint, the glue layer is less than the thickness of a sheet of notebook paper.

In order to guarantee that there is sufficient glue in a joint, spread a thin layer on both mating surfaces.

In a mortise-and-tenon joint, this means coating both the mortise and tenon walls with glue. You can use a scrap stick, a small brush or a narrow roller to do this. Just make sure the coverage is complete and even.

In woodworking it is often said that cleanliness is next to godliness, the mating surfaces must also be clean, dry and free of contamination before you spread the glue. Oil, waxes and some chemicals, like silicone, will resist the glue.

Dust and water can cause the joint to fail by preventing good contact between wood surfaces, or diluting the strength of the glue.

All glues have a recommended open time, which defines the amount of time you can safely leave the glue exposed to the air before assembling the joint. For most yellow glues, this is about 10 minutes. But the open time will vary with the temperature and humidity of your work room.

Hot, dry conditions will cause the glue to set quicker. In complicated assemblies, where many joints must be prepared at once, it's important to factor the open time limit into the process. Sometimes, you'll have to assemble a project by making smaller subassemblies first. Also, keep in mind that yellow glue will not perform well in cold conditions. Most manufacturers recommend that both the room and the wood surfaces be at least 13C degrees before applying glue.

Once a joint is assembled, it must be clamped together. Clamps serve two purposes. They pull a joint together tightly and hold it in a fixed position while the glue sets.

You should not apply tremendous force with your clamps because this will drive too much glue from the joint. Just firmly tighten them and set the assembly aside.



If a proper amount of glue has been spread and a proper amount of force used to tighten the clamps, you should see small beads of glue squeezing out of both sides of the joint.



To remove this squeeze-out, allow it to set for about 20 minutes, and then use an old chisel or putty knife to scrape off the excess.

Some people recommend wiping the excess glue off with a damp rag, but this technique should be avoided because it can force glue into the surrounding wood pores—especially with open-grain woods.

Unfortunately, this glue will not be apparent until you apply the finish, when it's too late to do anything easily to fix it.

Finally, all glues must be allowed sufficient time to set and dry before you remove the clamps. Yellow glue should be allowed to set for at least an hour.

A full cure with most glues takes at least 24 hours; so don't disturb the assembly until his time has passed, and in any event make sure that no stress is applied to the joint before a full cure is achieved

SAFETY HINT AND TIP.

Your body is **precious.** It needs **you** to look after it.



THINK AND ACT SAFELY.

When turning a work piece and it comes to the point of sanding, we tend to continue with the lathe running at various high speeds.

Not thinking we grab a piece of sandpaper to apply it to the wood not realising there is a possibility of it grabbing and wrapping itself around the job and possibly taking your hand or fingers with it causing them to jam between the tool rest and work piece.

We all should make a conscious effort to remind ourselves to remove the tool rest at the point of sanding thus eliminating the chance of injury to the hand and fingers.



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- Variable blade speeds
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SAVE \$53



Guide Joiner, Clamps & Stop Accessory Kit

- 2 x Guide rail clamps for mounting to bench
- includes:
- 1 x Joining bar with fastening screws to connect guide rails
- 1 x Saw length stop fits on guide rail



\$22 (W877)
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Table Saw - HS120

- Ø315mm TCT blade
- 550 x 800mm work table
- Tilt arbor 45°

- 3hp, 240V motor

\$625 (W443)
SAVE \$90



Dust Collector - HA-1000

- 109cfm HPLV system
- 5 micron filter
- 50 litre tank
- 1.5hp, 240V motor

\$198 (W885)
SAVE \$22



Chisel Morticer Chisa 7.0

- 25mm chisel capacity
- 170 x 140mm table movement
- 220mm head stroke
- Magnetic safety switch
- 1hp 240V motor

\$1,375 (W3465)
SAVE \$154



Oscillating Belt Sander Slik 7.0b

- German design & technology
- 850 x 300mm cast iron table
- Tilting sanding belt 90-180°
- 2515mm x 150mm belt size
- 2.2kW / 3hp 240V motor

\$1,749 (L903)
SAVE \$220



Bench Top Router - hf-50

- 610 x 360mm cast iron table
- 11,500 - 24,000rpm variable speed
- 0 - 40mm spindle height
- 1.5kW / 2hp, 240V motor

\$475 (W846)
SAVE \$64



Dust Collector - HD12

- 680cfm LPHV system
- Large collection area
- 3/4hp, 240V motor

\$297 (W886)
SAVE \$33



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ADELAIDE
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Unit 11/20 Cheltenham Pde,
Woodville

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FINDING THE BALANCE CENTRE

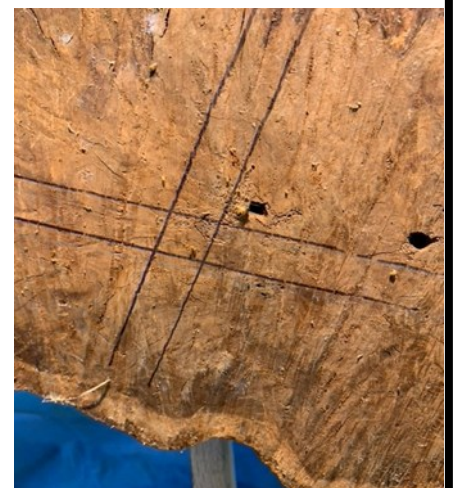
Item 66

NOVEMBER 2025

When we get an odd shape piece of wood, we would like to mount it so we get the most out of it with minimal vibration we need to know where the centre is so we can mount it in the right place. The following pictures show a process to adopt in finding the centre.

Take a plank piece of wood, stand it on its side and balance the job in any direction along its edge, scribe two lines to the underside then do the same at approximately 90 degrees.

Where these 4 lines intersect is the balanced middle of the work piece and a faceplate mounting point.



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.