

Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild September 2013

### 25th Anniversary Dinner

On the 24th August we had a capacity crowd at the Pakuranga Country Club for a dinner to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of South Auckland Woodturners Guild.

The current president, Bruce Wood officiated over the night.

A presentation was given to Mac Duane who has been a loyal and very busy member serving many years on the committee and maintaining all our lathes and machinery. Mac has recently stood down from these roles due to failing eyesight.

Garry Troop was the official speaker for the event. His association with the club is detailed in the history written by Mac (on page 3).

A cake that was skilfully baked and decorated to look like a log of wood by Briony Veitch was another highlight of the night.

It was a very enjoyable evening, with good food and pleasant company.





















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#### SAWG Committee

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#### Webmaster

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#### **Club Meetings:**

Wednesday Nights 7:00pm (Doors open 5:00pm)

#### **Club Rooms:**

Papatoetoe Community Centre, Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe, Auckland, New Zealand

#### Website:

http://www.sawg.org.nz

#### Correspondence

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#### **Newsletter contributions**

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#### **Contributers this Month**

Jamie Connor Earl Culham Mac Duane John Moat Wim Nijmeijer Tom Pearson Dick Veitch Don Wood Photos - Ross Johnson



Our meetings are held Wednesday evening in our clubrooms in the Papatoetoe Stadium Community Centre, Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe (see www.sawg.org.nz for directions). The official meeting starts at 7:00pm.

For those wishing to make use of the machinery, do some shopping, check out the library, get some advice, or just socialise the doors open at 5:00pm.

Meetings include General Business, Show & Tell, Reports on Club Events and the demo or activity listed below.

Futher information and the most up-to-date calendar can be found on our website at http://www.sawg.org.nz

#### **Club Meeting Programme**

#### Term 3 2013

September 25th Last Night of Term - Life Members award, term project...

The club rooms will be open on Wednesday night for coffee, chat and use of the lathes during the school holidays.

#### Term 4 2013

Term programme to be confirmed, theme of Toys, Knick Knacks and Decorations.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Sep	26th	-	29th	SAWG Participation @ Camp Adair Booking form on our website (www.sawg.org.nz) news page.
Nov	1st	-	3rd	Spin Around Waitaki - Guest Demonstrator Neil Scobie

Regularly Updated Calendars of Events can always be viewed at www.sawg.org.nz and www.naw.org.nz (including entry forms)





Turning Talk - September 2013

### A Short History of South Auckland Woodturners Guild

#### by Mac Duane

In 1987 Bob Main wrote an article in the local paper asking if there was anybody interested in wood turning. From this article, several interested people got together and formed a club.

Bob Main was the first President and Ben Smith was the first Treasurer.

They met in a garage for some time. Then, as Bob Main was the head wood-work teacher at Manurewa High School, we were able to use the wood-work room at the school as a meeting place.

This continued for 13 years.

Things changed at the High School and we were given 2 weeks notice to find a new place to have our meetings.

In our search for an alternative meeting place, either in Manurewa or Papatoetoe, we were in contact with the MCC representative, Maureen Sheldon and Papatoetoe Community Council chairman, Garry Troupe. He was able to set us up at the Papatoetoe High School on a temporary basis until we could find something more permanent.

With the help of Garry and Maureen we looked at several places. We even drew up a set of plans for a new building on a piece of land near the depot building and the MCC set aside \$100,000 as a starter fund to help us.

After many meetings with Garry and Maureen we were told that the Convention Centre at Papatoetoe could be made available.

In the meantime, the building which the Otahuhu Police had been using, had problems and the Police had to vacate it. In looking for some temporary premises the MCC offered them the building we were looking at. Unbeknown to Maureen, Peter Knox and Mac Duane went along on the Monday to decide how they could set things up, only to find the Police were already busy installing themselves into the building.

We were told that they would be using it for 6 months. This turned into 12 months.

In the meantime, Garry was able to keep us at the Papatoetoe High School. Eventually the Police shifted out and we were given a 3 year lease at the Convention Centre.

We drew up plans on seating and how the lathes were to be set up. We ran working bees for many weeks, having up to 36 workers busy building seating for 75 people, and storage cupboards.

We spent 2 years in this venue, when the MCC decided they required the area for offices.

After much discussion the MCC offered to clear out the other half of the building for us to use - our current venue. They provided us with a 40 foot container during the move, which was put in the parking area. We then dismantled the seating and storage areas and packed them - along with all the lathes and other gear - into the container.

Following alterations undertaken by the MCC to partition the area off, remove two cool rooms, a bar area and a full kitchen, and repair the concrete floor, we were able to start again rebuilding the seating area and cupboards as it is set up now.

### Show and Tell

A small sample of what has been shown and discussed this month.



Colin Wise



Warwick Day



John Moat



Ross Johnson



Jamie Connor



Cam Cosford

### Club Night Action Wednesday 31st July Salt Pig - Graeme MacKay

#### **Report by Tom Pearson**

Graeme started by defining the 'Salt Pig' as a utensil for holding salt, REFERRED US TO THE club website for instructions, then showed us a variety of blanks suitable for making one. He also showed us his 'low cost chuck' for off-centre turning, being 100mm jumbo jaws with 2 jaws missing. I must try that sometime.

#### **Process for the Standard Salt Pig**

1) Turn the blank between centres. Graeme uses steb centres, making sure that the revolving centre goes in the tail stock, otherwise it makes strange noises. He commented that you are really making a modified bowl.

2) Make a spigot on the tail stock end, then place blank on a 50mm chuck.

3) Plan to make a slightly rounded bowl with a spout at the mouth, Leave the base thicker than the top, allowing for removal of sufficient wood to stand the finished item on a bench at a suitable angle.

4) Sand the curved part before finishing the mouth, then shape mouth, leaving a small ledge at the opening.

5) Options for the mouth are to leave this as a fully round opening, or to use a panel saw to cut a much larger opening after turning is completed. Do not attempt to make this cut with a bandsaw unless you want to lose fingers.

6) Clean off the mouth area and hollow out Piggy's stomach.

7) Graeme likes to place feet on the base for stability and to avoid spillage. Make up small dowels for this purpose, shaping the feet and leaving a small (6mm) spigot for later attachment. Making additional feet at this stage is good practice and they can be used for more pigs or for Christmas ornaments.

#### **Experimenting with Different Shapes**

Why not make a salt pig car for the little ones to play with on the table? (My Grandmother would not have been amused at this thought)

#### **Process for a Piggy Car**

1) Using the 100mm Jumbo jaws with 2 segments removed, insert a blank cylinder approx 250mm x 50mm centred roughly 1 third/ 2 thirds. Mark a centre line along the length for later use.

2) Mark a 35mm circle and form a bowl.

3) Remove from the chuck, mark centres on each end, then 2 additional centres 5mm each side of the centre at the long end to form an off centre racing car shape.

4) Note At this point, Warwick fell asleep and his feet thumped on the floor, waking everyone else up. This led to good attention for the final stages of the demo.

5) Shape both ends while on true centres. Sand.

6) Replace tailstock onto the alternative centres and shape your 'Piggy Car'.

7) Make and attach wheels.

8) VOILA, a salt pig with a difference.

Bravo Graeme. You proved that we should not be scared to think outside the square (or round) with our woodturning and traditional shapes should not bind us in anything we make.









#### Wednesday 7th August Tooth Pick Holder - Richard Johnstone, Mark Johnstone

#### Report by Jamie Connor

After seeing a salt pig last week we had a surprise demo from Brydon Thorpe who thought he would show us his wooden spoon for salt.

#### Wooden Spoon Demo

30x30x150

Straight into chuck

Rounded up and shaped and square ends left on each end to help when cutting it in half in the band saw.

Once cut in half put in a jam chuck made out of mdf with a hole in the middle. Shaft held into place with a strap.

Bowl is carved out of bulbous end.

Richard and Mark then followed with the main billing, a toothpick holder.

#### **Tooth Pick Holder**

First they showed some samples, explaining details of what they liked about each design.

Essentially the toothpick holder is a lidded box

They made an egg which was 1.5 times the width.

Measured into thirds to help shape the egg

Wood is left at the top and bottom for handle and for base and for a spiggot to mount properly into the chuck

Once the egg was shaped it was split with a thin parting tool and hacksaw

A skew was used to put a ridge in the top half and then it was hollowed out

A skew was used to put a groove in the bottom half to receive the top ridge.

Bottom is also hollowed out for the toothpicks

Top and bottom are then rejoined and put back on the lathe

Uneveness is taken out where the top and bottom meet







## Wednesday 14th August Plant Stand - Bob Yandell

#### Report by Don Wood

Bob Yandell gave a very interesting demo on the construction of a small delicate side table suitable for a plant or glass of wine. Emphasis was placed on safety in particular using the bandsaw and router.

Timber used can be optional but for the top, needs to have a fine grain and be 250-300mm diameter and 25mm thick. After cutting out on a bandsaw or jigsaw mount the plate on the lathe with pin jaws or other suitable attachment. The procedure included, true the edge, clean the face, small lip of 3mm at the edge prevents ornament sliding off, sand and finish to preference.

Timber for the legs should preferably be as for the top and a template used for uniformity. Carefully cut legs using a bandsaw to a thickness of 10-12mm finish with a scraper or spoke shave, keep ends that go into the pedestal, clean for giving better results. Pedestal turned between centers to required shape and sand. Carefully mark out position of mortise, Bob uses a 3mm router for the cuts, which need to be at 120° to each other.

Glue carefully, Bob used a Titebond III when assembling – take care that pedestal is at right angles to floor, the mounting plate is perpendicular to the pedestal and parallel to the floor.

A very interesting demonstration.

#### Wednesday 21st August Rolling Pin - Bruce Wiseman

Report by Jamie Connor

Started with a joke about a boy getting his drivers license

Showed various rolling pins, small ones, large ones, with handles and without

Decided against starting with a rough piece of wood

Good wood for a rolling pin has a close grain, demo was done with Kauri

Handles need to be in proportion to the rolling area. Kids one has smaller handles.

Kahikatea makes for a good rolling pin wood

Marked handles with skew then shaped with roughing gouge

Skew was used to smooth it up. Slow draw to avoid chatter. Also using the heel of the skew and using the bevel stops the grain from raising

Finished with sanding sealer. Other suggestion was walnut oil

Make it parallel or else it will roll in an arc









#### Wednesday 28th August Spoon - Dick Veitch

#### Report by Earl Culham

Dick commenced his demonstration with a WoodCut grinding wheel set up on the lathe with the grinding guide attached to the tool post. This grinding wheel surface is covered in a product similar to industrial diamonds, very hard and long lasting-CBN for short or Cubic Boron Nitride for the technocrats who want the full name.

Dick recommends 180 or 200 grit rather than the usual 80 or 120 used on the club white stones. Unlike the white stones which clog up and need frequent dressing as happens with the 120 grit, the CBN does not clog up; hence the finer grit works best. The wheel Dick was using was a 200mm diameter, with a 40mm face; it can be used at any speed on the lathe.

Adjust the height of the grinding guide, set the distance etc. as you would normally do for the club Tru-grind sharpening system. The down side of using the CBN wheel on your lathe is that you have to remove your work before grinding your chisels.

Dick uses the 200mm wheel so that there is a limited hollow grinding affect which occurs when using a 6" or 8" grind stone. When rubbing on the bevel the flatter surface from the 200mm wheel is easier to achieve than for the hollow ground chisel.

WoodCut can supply the correct thread for fitting the wheel to your lathe head stock.

The 200mmx40mm wheel is \$215 (refer to Terry Scott's website for plenty of information on the wheel and prices). Dick commented that there was no need for a shield around the wheel when using as for the white stone, where the shield is a safety feature in case it flies apart.

#### Now to spoon making.

There are many sizes and shapes of spoons. Dick showed an example of a large spoon, similar to a ladle, but in his view, it lacked strength where the handle attached to the spoon bowl. The spoon he demonstrated had a purpose, and that was for use with a salt pig. As it had a use, it had to be fairly solid to stand up to the rigours of being dropped.

#### Step by step:-

1. Take a piece of your preferred wood, 40x40x130 (dimensions and design are available on the SAWG web site). Secure the square piece of wood in the chuck, bring up the tail stock to support and properly centre the work, and turn to round. Turn up as close to the chuck as you can.

2. Make a ball in the tail stock end, leave a small point for the live centre at this stage, don't make the transition between the ball and the handle too small or it will be too weak. Shape the handle as per the diagram on the web site.

3. Remove the tail stock and smooth off the end of the ball. Dick then used a 32mm pipe to round off the ball. You can use any round object such as a plastic bottle cap to check for round, any light showing suggests a high spot that needs attention.

4. Finish shaping the handle right to the chuck, sand off making sure you get the end of the ball sanded as well.

5. Now you have a ball on a stick with a square end. Split in half (lengthwise) using the band saw. You now have two spoons blanks.

6. Trim the square end of the handle to your favourite shape.

7. To hollow the spoon, Dick used a set of Cole jaws with blocks fastened to the jaws, tighten the jaws to hold the spoon, place the ball to the centre, slow the speed to 500rpm and hollow.

8. Remove the spoon and sand to final finish-you now have a spoon for your salt pig.









#### Wednesday 4th September Leaf Plate - David Wilde

#### Report by John Moat

On the 4th September we were lucky enough to watch David Wilde from Franklin Wood Turners make a tree leaf using the lathe. He started making the leaves to decorate a platter he was entering into a show.

Firstly he made a thin disk on the lathe with a slight curve in it. When I say thin, it was thin, thinner than a boarding house blanket!! After parting off the disk he drew the shape of a Camellia leaf including the stalk onto the wood watching for which way the grain was going. The leaf was then cut out on the band saw.

Then holding the leaf in one hand and using an Arbour grinder in the other David then started to grind the highs and lows and form some decaling on the edges of the leaf. By this time everyone was sitting on the edge of their chairs waiting for the grinder to catch a finger or two and watch the blood spurt out bit like going to the motor racing to watch the crashes. This was not the first time David had done this so all went well and no blood.

The leaf was then sanded and finished in a short time and looked fabulous with stalk still intact. Then David produced an apple and a pear he had already made and inserted a leaf into the top of each piece of fruit for decoration. As David said you will break a few leaves when you first start making them but keep trying (if you have any fingers left) as they are very thin and they will break.

Being new to wood turning I found it a very interesting and fruitful demonstration on what you can do with a piece of wood.



### **Mini Lathes - FREE Loans**

The club has mini lathes available for use by members, at no cost, in their home workshops, club events or in the clubrooms.

They come ready to go (just plug & play) complete with a Nova chuck and a set of tools.

Usually they are available for two weeks, but depending on demand, extra time can be arranged. Turning blanks and a variety of finishing materials are available for purchase at the club shop.



Enquiries to Darryl Pointon or a Committee member



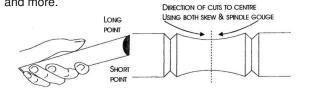




### A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO WOODTURNING

Original artwork and text by George Flavell Edited and computerised by Dick Veitch

Now in its sixth edition with 58 pages of clear line drawings and text specifically aimed at the learner turner. Safety, tools, wood gathering, spindle work, bowls, hollow forms and more.



### Nick Arnull – Platter Magic

DVD Review by Wim Nijmeijer

In this DVD Nick Arnull demonstrates some turning techniques and decorating techniques.

There are lots of close up shots showing chisel use and control during the turning of the 3 platters, and I find it interesting to watch experienced wood turners. As a novice wood turner I always learn so much by closely watching the chisel control and movement during turning. The close up shots and camera work is very good.

However the thrust of this DVD is all about how to enhance 3 wide rimmed platters by colouring and decorating.

For each of the 3 platters Nick shows and explains the various techniques/processes such as:

#### **Celestial Platter**

Application of acrylic sanding sealers

Sanding

Application of matt black paint followed by 3 coats of satin lacquer

The wide rim is then decorated by using 3 different sizes of countersink drill bits.

These countersink holes are randomly drilled around the rim and are of different diameters (size)

Then the centre of the bowl is turned and the platter is finished by applying the various coats of sanding sealer, sanding, 3 coats of satin lacquer, wire wool finish and finally application of burnishing cream to the centre of the bowl, followed by polishing.

The end result looks great!

Rock Cristal Rim Platter

Application of spirit based sanding sealers

Sanding and finishing with 0000 wire wool

For decoration Nick used spirit based stains and methylated spirits as follows:

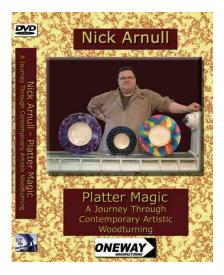
He uses fine paper towels and forms this into the shape of a ragged ball. He loads the paint, red first, onto the paper and then randomly applies the paint onto the rim by lightly touching and rotating the paper against the rim, thus leaving small irregular paint blotches.

This process is repeated by using blue paint and finally again with black. The rim is now almost completely covered in red, blue and black paint blotches.

And now comes the trick! Nick then applies methylated spirits in the same way as for the paint. This in effect "blends" the paint and a beautiful colour pattern emerges.

After drying 2-3 coats of acrylic gloss lacquer is applied. Then the center of the bowl is turned and the platter is finished by applying the various coats of sanding sealer, sanding, 3 coats of acrylic gloss lacquer, wire wool finish and finally application of burnishing cream to the centre of the bowl and the rim, followed by polishing.

The end result looks stunning!



#### Tutti Frutti Platter

Note: The rim was already prepared by sanding and application of acrylic sanding sealer.

For decoration of the rim Nick uses this time transparent paint applied by an airbrush. Yellow, red, blue and grey are used.

Nick starts with yellow first, he always starts at the centre, never on the to be painted area-in case of splatter. The yellow is applied in a random pattern, followed by blue and red. Blending of some of these colours produces beautiful purple, green and orange colours. The rim is now completely covered by the paint, but the grain is still visible. Nick then adjusts the airbrush to reduce the amount of paint coming through (narrow pattern to create boundaries-grey)

This grey is than applied to demarcate the boundaries of the various colours.

Two coats of gloss lacquer are applied to the rim. The centre of the bowl is turned and the platter is finished by applying the various coats of sanding sealer, sanding, 4 coats of acrylic gloss lacquer, wire wool finish and finally application of burnishing cream to the centre of the bowl and the rim, followed by polishing.

A mirror like finish, for me this is the nicest one of the three!

Nick has produced 3 beautiful platters. I thoroughly enjoyed his well-presented demonstration, his skills and artistic talent. I recommend this DVD to all wood turners who would like to enhance their own work. I certainly have learned a lot, and in due time I will attempt some of the techniques shown in this DVD.

# AUCTION WOODTURNING COLLECTION





A collection of exquisite pieces by various well known Australasian woodturners

Ken Port founder of Woodcut tools has decided to part with his collection from over the last 20+yrs, Part of the proceeds will go to the South Auckland Woodturners club.

Unfortunately Ken's beach cottage has nowhere to display these precious pieces and they're too good to remain in boxes.

Woodturning from well known turners such as Ken Sager (deceased), Vic Wood, Richard Raffan, Guilio Marcolongo, Soren Berger, Shane Hewitt, Marc Piercy, Derek Kerwood, Rick Taylor, Robbie Graham and others.

A few award winning artworks are among the collection as well as signature and demonstration woodturning. A great variety of beautiful wood from both New Zealand and Australia.

All items will be auctioned on the Trademe auction site starting from 28th September 2013, postage can be arranged to anywhere.

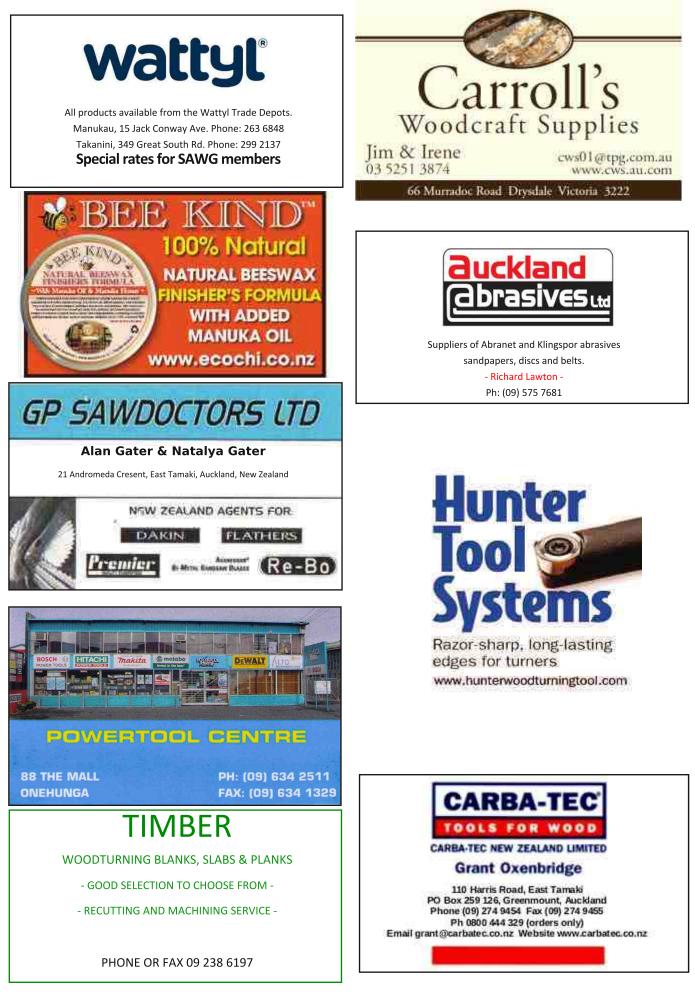
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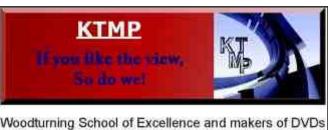
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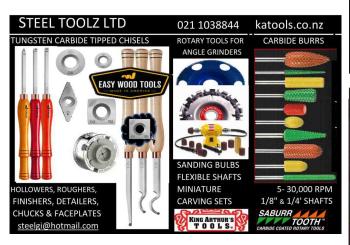
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