

# TurningTalk

Turning Tomorrow's Treasures

Issue No 193

Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild

April 2011

## Jamboree in Taupo

Leaving Papakura at 7am, 5 of us in a ute loaded with gear. Yes with the canopy full and a trailer in tow we headed off to get a good possey at the Taupo Jamboree. The other reason was to wind up Robbie and crew. As in the past the starting gates didn't open until Midday. We weren't the first to arrive this year but Uncle Dick was still the first to make some shavings.

The jamboree is held at the Spa hotel in Taupo- a great Venue; the once bottle store has plenty of room and feels like a blokes (or a bloke-ettes) place. Rustic and well worn.

This year saw more lathes but less attendees but no one seemed to notice as smiles were to be seen everywhere.

Similar to participation these events are well worth the effort of attending if not just to catch up with all the old woody friends talk and talk a lot of crap but because you will always come away learning something. The old wood turners motto of "no secrets held back, help others" prevails.

A theme for the weekend was to make a lidded box our own Rex Haslip won the lucky draw for this (I got let off lightly as judging the 60 or more boxes would have been a nightmare!)

The event also hosts a competition in two categories, "Traditional Turning" and "Artistic". Being asked to judge this year was an honour. Always a hard job when there are so many pieces entered for only one prize in each category and of which many are deserving of the podium. After much deliberation, my pick in the end was Dick Veitch's oak tube set for artistic. I am a strong believer that pieces are firstly rated on visual impact. While standing back looking at the display of work entered, I was amazed at how many people walked up to the tubes (woodturners and non woodturners alike) and gravitated to the tubes and just had to pick them up. With comments of "these are so tactile", along with lots of "Ohs" and "ahs".

In the traditional turning, Robbie's "From the fire wood heap" natural edge piece spoke to me because of its finesse and perfect form. A risk had also been taken with no foot so the bowl rocked when touched.

I see from the latest Taupo newsletter that many of the executive committee are standing down. Hopefully they find others that will stand up to take over from this core group who have run the jamboree for so many years with such great success. New blood is not a bad thing so hopefully that flows readily for the Taupo Club so that we see continuing improvements and positive changes to what is already an awesome 3 days event and one I was pleased to have once again been a part of.

Look forward to seeing many of you there next year!

**Report by Terry Scott**



**Taupo Attendees**  
(clockwise) Cathy Langley, Nikki Penlington (outgoing Taupo President), Darryl Pointon, Dick Veitch, Troy Grimwood



**Prizewinners:** Traditional- Robbie Graham "Firewood 3", Open Artistic- Dick Veitch "Sandblasted"

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## SAWG COMMITTEE

### President

Dick Veitch 298 5775

### Vice President

Bob Yandell 537 3815

### Past President

Michael Bernard 09 425 6782

### Secretary

Mark Savill 267 9965

### Treasurer

David Jones 299 5110

### Editor

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### Members:

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Terry Meekan 263 8240

Terry Scott 297 7051

Les Sivewright 534 7943

Bruce Wood 626 3840

Don Wood 292 4205

### Webmaster

Rex Haslip 267 3548

### Club Meetings:

Wed nights - 7.00 pm  
(Doors open - 5.00 pm)

### Club Rooms:

Papatoetoe Community Centre,  
Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe,  
South Auckland, NZ

### Contact us:

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### Credits and kudos this month:

Mac Duane  
Ross Johnson (Photos)  
Robbie Graham  
Albie McCabe  
Guilio Marcolongo  
Darryl Pointon  
Terry Scott  
Keith Tompkins  
Laureen Tubby (Taupo photos)  
Geoff Whaling (Australia)  
Bruce (Bahat) Wood (Photo)

### Mistakes, Misspellings etc His!



The South Auckland Woodturners  
Guild  
*is a member of the*  
National Association of  
Woodworkers NZ Inc.  
*and the*  
American Association of  
Woodturners



## Coming Up...

All the activities listed here are in our clubrooms in the Papatoetoe Stadium Community Centre, Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe (see [www.sawg.org.nz](http://www.sawg.org.nz) for directions). On our regular Wednesday evening meetings, the official meeting starts at 7.00pm and is followed by a "Show-&-Tell" session where members display and discuss their work.

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

We have a Table Prize for each term. This is members work on display - lessons learned (half-finished, flawed, or failed) to the best you can do that has been brought to the "Show-&-Tell" table during the term.

### Balance Term 1, Term 2

6 April	Natural Edge Bowl with Bruce Wood
9 April	Saturday Working Bee
13 April	Last night of term, Judging of term project, Kaleidoscopes with Lee Riding
16 April	Rolly Munro demonstration
4 May	Domestic Ware Salt Pig and spoon with Terry Scott
11 May	SAWG Annual General Meeting
18 May	Carving and Pyrography with Graeme Mackay
25 May	Pepper Grinder (TBC)
1 June	Hands on
8 June	Lazy Susan and Pot Stand (TBC)

### Upcoming Events

Until 8 May	"Cutting Edge- The Art of Turned Wood" Exhibition at Pataka Museum of Arts and Culture (Wellington)
1-3 April	Waiora Turn Inn (Otago)
2-3 April	Guild of Woodworkers Symposium (Wellington)
21-25 April	Royal Easter Show (Auckland)
30 April	Treeworkx Fielday (Matamata)
4-5 June	Taranaki Woodcraft Festival (Waitara)
9 July	NAW AGM (Franklin)
23-25 Sept	SAWG Participation 2011

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

## Macs Maxim of the Month

Thoughtfully, in the worst of times  
The best comes out of us  
-Mac Duane





# Shavings

Speak to Les for more information.

## Notice Of AGM

The Annual General Meeting of South Auckland Woodturners Guild will be held on Wednesday, 11 May 2011 at the Guild premises in Tavern lane, Papatoetoe commencing at 7pm.

Nomination forms for the committee are available from the Guild Secretary.

## Treeworkx Open Shed Day

The annual Treeworkx Open Shed Day is on once again on **Saturday 30 April** at Graham Oliver's located at 469 Paratu Road Matamata (note that this is a new location). Entry fee is \$25 per ticket which includes morning tea and a hot lunch. Exhibitors and demonstrators are still to be confirmed but if it is like previous years, expect some good savings (20% alone off Treeworkx broad selection of native and exotics) and a good days entertainment.



More information can be obtained (and google map to Treeworkx) from [www.wood.treeworkx.co.nz](http://www.wood.treeworkx.co.nz) or phone Graham on 07 8883800.

## Royal Easter Show Art Awards

These will be held Wednesday 20 April at the Logan Campbell Centre, ASB Showgrounds, Epsom from 7pm. Last year, you will recall Terry Scott took Supreme Exhibit in Show for his entry "At the Beach" following on from Gordon Pembri-bridges winning the same award the previous year for his entry "Back Country Stream". Can SAWG (and woodturning) make it a hat trick this year? Woodturning is an art form to be reckoned with, at least at the Royal Easter Show!



## Rolly Munro Visit

Prior to judging the Royal Easter Show Art Awards the following week, Rolly Munro will be demonstrating as well as conducting a workshop for Aoraki students.

The demo will be held Saturday 16 April from 9am until noon. Full details on page 5. This will be another excellent demo and I suggest you put it in your diary now.

## Open All Hours?

Les Siveright still has a number of pepper mill mechanisms (not suitable for rock salt) and 35mm watch mechanisms for sale through the shop. These were donated by Bruce Hannah to the guild as he takes a break from 'turning.

## Site Safe Course

12 SAWG members recently attended and benefited from attending a "Site Safe: Building Construction Passport" course conducted by Tony Rigg, HEB Construction National Health and Safety Manager.

With a message of "stopping and thinking before acting", the passport course is designed to improve safety awareness and the actions of everyone working on a construction site. Tony is well qualified to run this course having previously been a paramedic as well as a fireman and currently is Branch Manager of the NZ Institute of Safety Management.



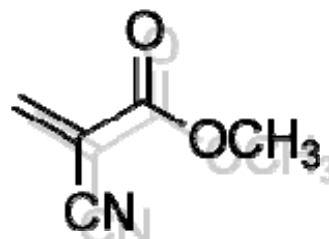
As Tony pointed out, safety (whether it be on a construction site, our own turning associated activities or generally) is everyone's responsibility and the course ensured attendees had a good basic understanding of their safety responsibilities as well as the personal and financial consequences of unsafe practices.

Thanks to Tony for giving up his Saturday morning, providing a very good safety overview and of course HEB Construction for making their facilities (and Tony) available. Thanks also to Don Wood for coordinating and making it happen.

## Inventor of "Super Glue" Dies

Many 'turners rely on the invention of Harry Coover who is credited as being the inventor of "Super Glue" or cyanoacrylate and who died this month aged 94.

Evidently, the discovery was serendipitous (look that one up! - an accidental discovery) when he was searching for materials suitable for gun sights in 1942. At that time, cyanoacrylates were rejected as being "too sticky" (!) however in 1958, he was investigating polymers suitable for jet canopies. Once again, cyanoacrylate was rejected as being too sticky but this time, Coover recognised its potential as an adhesive and the rest is history.



Coover held 460 different patents, Super Glue being just one of his discoveries. He was inducted into the US National Inventors Hall of Fame as well as being recognised in 2010 by Barack Obama who awarded him the "National Medal of Technology and Innovation". He was never able to significantly capitalise on Super Glue because by the time it had become popular, his patent had lapsed.

Perhaps the price of \$100 (then) for a small bottle suppressed its early commercial success however whether you like it or not, Super Glue has become a very well accepted adhesive. As well as being used in the applications we might be familiar with, you may not be aware that during the Vietnam War, cyanoacrylate was used

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

as a wound dressing, both to retard bleeding and to close wounds. CSI fans will have seen it used to take latent fingerprints while (animal) vets have used it to mend bone and skin abrasions (as apparently do rock climbers and stringed instrument players)

While Super Glue is considered safe, the fumes are irritating so use in well ventilated areas is recommended (and for wounds; subsequently a medical cyanoacrylate has been developed which does not irritate the skin- so don't include Super Glue in the Guild First Aid kit Michele!)

## The Latest Variable Speed Lathe?

Kiwis are renowned innovators and this has to be up there along with splitting the atom and the Hamilton Jet. This "Variable Speed Lathe" recently appeared on Trademe and is surely set to become a legend...

Incorporating what looks to be a mini gearbox, it has 4 forward gears and reverse!

**Wood Lathe /With Gearbox/ plus tools**  
Start price: \$375.00 | No reserve | Closed: Mon 28 Mar 2011, 3:08 pm | Listing #: 963785112

I have owned this for 32 years and I have owned from new. This is a very strong and well built lathe. A clever engineer fitted a 4 speed car gearbox to it for me. This is great, as I can change gear without stopping, there is no need to stop and change the belt to an other pully for different speeds. If one needs a different range of speed from the gearbox than the belt from the main pullys top and bottom, can be moved, see pics.  
The spinning center I had made with two bearings for strength. I can not use it anymore due to an accident, like other machines I sell them as they are just collecting dust, genuine reason for selling.  
The stand is home made it is very strong but my welding in thought days not very tidy. The three lights work and have econo bulbs in them, they work so a switch to the left, and the on/off is located there as well. The single phase motor and the tools are not top quality but they do the job. I have had no problem with this lathe at all it work great.  
Sell.  
This is the lowest price for the lathe.



View full size photos



## Errata (or $A + B \neq C$ ?)

Shavings last month included an item entitled "Sold" (referring to Gordon Pembridge's piece "Sandy Bay Pohutukawa").

Gordon tells me that this is not in fact the case, the piece not having sold (A) which leads to (B) there have been no sale proceeds therefore (C) the Sandy Bay Pohutukawa proceeds have not paid for a new boat!

Apologies to Gordon and disappointed prospective purchasers: the good news is the piece remains available for viewing and purchase at [www.artport.co.nz](http://www.artport.co.nz) or [www.littleurl.net/d58682](http://www.littleurl.net/d58682)

(Note to self: never trust a secret source- my mistake, Scott's fault)

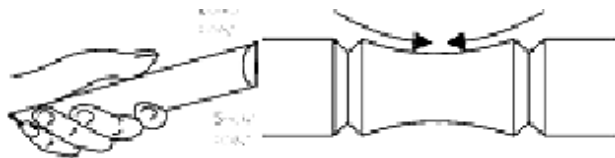


## A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO WOODTURNING

Original artwork and text by George Flavell

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.

Just \$20.00, sent to the Guild Secretary.



## 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  
Mac Duane, Tom Pearson  
or a Committee member.





# Rolly Munro Demo



## Rolly Munro

At South Auckland  
Woodturners Guild

Nine to Noon  
Saturday 16 April



\$12.00 at the door.

Morning tea supplied.

Bring a sandwich and  
stay for lunch.



For this morning we have asked  
Rolly to talk, show slides, show  
tools, and make shavings, to  
illustrate:

Designing the form  
Choosing the wood  
Designing the embellishments  
Cutting, burning, and carving  
Sanding, staining, and polishing

This is a unique opportunity for you to gain an insight into a  
few aspects of the creation of great woodturning.

## Fellows of the “Golden Chisel”



At our last meeting for 2010, SAWG President **Dick Veitch** was awarded the clubs highest award “The Golden Chisel”. This award acknowledges and recognises a Guild member who has contributed and provided outstanding service to the Guild over a sustained period. Dick is pictured with his Golden Chisel along with the awards only other recipient (to date), **Mac Duane** (Left).

Congratulations Dick.



# Guest Turn: Keith Tompkins



**K**eith says of this piece:  
*"I wanted to turn a more visually interesting tube. The spiral continues through the tube where it reverses itself and exits the bottom".*

Now that you have given up trying to figure out how Keith made this exceptional piece, I will leave it to Keith to explain how he made it:

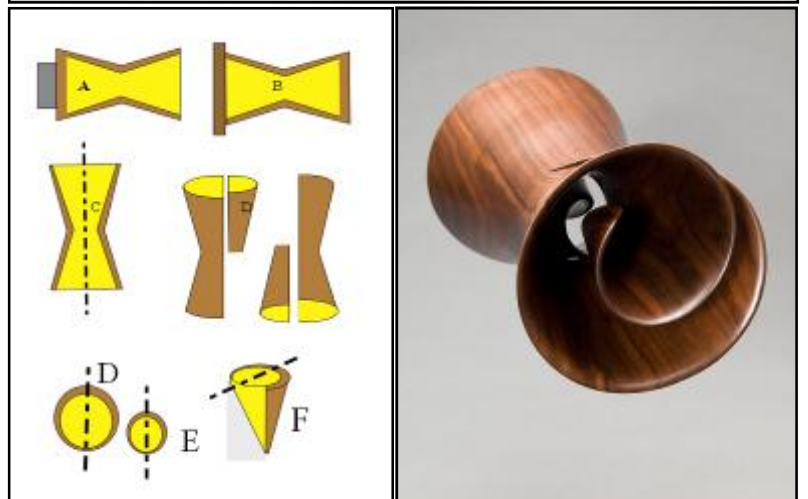
"First, I turned a tube, one end supported in a chuck (A). Then I reversed it to finish the other end. I made a groove in a waste block that fit the open end of the tube, about 1/8" (3mm) deep, and glued the tube to it. Using a steadyrest, I hollowed the remaining wood out, then parted off (B). I cut the tube carefully down the centre with a pull-saw, then flattened both pieces on plate glass with abrasive (C).

"I then turned a smaller form, that had the same profile as the tube, which was then cut in half and flattened (D). Then an even smaller form that fit perfectly to the previous, cut and flattened (E). Then I began to assemble; one half of each smaller form was glued to form a spiral, which was then glued to half of the original tube. So, each half of the tube now had a spiral form on opposite ends. Then, all was sanded, and the two halves of the tube were reassembled. After careful fitting and cutting the leading edge away, they matched perfectly, since they were once one piece. Figure (F) shows the result of gluing half of (D) and (E) together. The only real sanding needed was at the glue joints. The bottom is a mirror image of the top, so if the turning were inverted, it would look just as it does now. Hope that answers how it was done."

Impressive piece of turning Keith. I expect that this piece will be a standout at the upcoming exhibition (No doubt we can look out for our own tubal aficionado Dick Veitch trying his hand at this)

*ABOUT KEITH: Keith describes himself as a professional woodworker and wood turner. Based in New York, he specialises in one-off turnings. For more of his work, go to his website:*

[www.keithtompkins.com](http://www.keithtompkins.com)



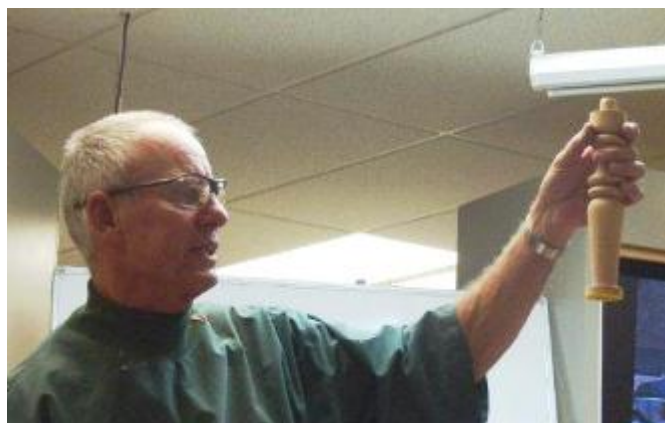


Wednesday 2 March

## Spindle Turning with Phread Thurston

Sometimes I'm fortunate to be able to leave Rakino on a Wednesday and this week I was lucky I made it.

I had the choice of having dinner at the Hilton or go to the woodturning club -as this Wednesday was my big night out off the Island. Why would you want a fancy dinner when you can smell wood shavings in the air and as we drew up in the car park, I could sense the woody atmosphere and I knew I'd made the right call -a night I am going to remember, particularly because I got the job of reporting the evening.



Phread Thurston

It was so good to see all the friendly faces again -what a great club we have. Dick as usual was holding court at the front of house and called the meeting to order and requested a standing minute of silence for our dear countrymen in Christchurch. Then followed the pieces of eight from the talk and turn table- it's so good to see work of our fellow turners and the standard of woodturning keeps moving forward which is something I miss out seeing living as I do on the Island.

The topic of the night was spindle turning by Phread Thurston. His happy approach to using that wonder tool- the skew- made me want to rush back to my workshop and find my skew chisel and start all over again (maybe I should too). Coupled with using his roughing out gouge, a parting tool, detail gouge and skew, Phread gave us an informative and entertaining evening of cutting beads, coves and many more wonderful terms I can never remember (although I was very nervous that I could at any moment receive a whack from the cane he keeps handy for my lack of concentration and memory).



Phread's "wonderful terms"

Thank you Phread for making the skew seem such an easy and worthwhile tool to use. I'm now back on the Island and have been practicing with my skew chisel but for the life of me I can't quite get the flowing body movements you seem to have perfected to go with it.

No doubt I need a good whack with your cane!

Report from: Albie McCabe

Wednesday 16 March

## Pens with Bruce Wood and Michele Pointon

Michele started the demo with an overview of the pen making process and the very many different styles of kits available. She showed the blanks at all of the different stages and described some of the problems that can happen at each stage.



Michele Pointon

- 1 Cut blank to 2-3 mm longer than pen tube
- 2 Drill wooden blank with right size drill
- 3 Scuff up tube with sandpaper
- 4 Using a thick super glue apply to tube then insert into drilled blank
- 5 Use end mill to square ends of blank down to length of tube
- 6 Mount mandrel in lathe with correct bushes for pen and mount blank on mandrel
- 7 Use roughing gouge and skew to turn and shape blank to the bushes
- 8 Sand through grades and finish blank
- 9 Assemble pen kit

Michele showed us the various jigs she has for drilling and assembly that make alignment and building the pens quicker.

She then showed us how she sands and applies the finish to the finished pen barrel. The hand out she distributed had a full list of suppliers with different pen kits and contacts she uses.

*"With the fall in the US\$ and the rise in the A\$, it is worth investigating buying direct from suppliers in the USA"*

Michele Pointon

Bruce then showed us his method of making his inlaid Celtic style pens. He explained the problems he had when he first started, but then saw a video of some other laminating techniques and learnt the trick of not cutting through the blank all the way through.

Bruce has made a jig that fits in the slides of his bench saw that holds the pen blank at an angle to the saw. The saw has a 3mm kerf and the height of the blade is set so that it leaves about 2-3 mm that holds the block together,

(Continued from page 7)

the blank is marked at one end to make sure that all the cuts are in the same plane.

The inlays are made by taking different coloured timbers, sanding them to the required thickness (saw kerf width) and with the plastic stripes glued together. Then the inlays are glued into place in the blank. The blank is then drilled and turned the same way. Bruce showed us just how fast it was from this stage to get to the finished pen. Bruce then drew a number from the roll of attendees and Bruce Wiseman took home a lovely pen

**Report: Darryl Pointon**



Bruce Wood, inset are pen blank and part finished pen (table saw jig in foreground)



Pen press designed and made by Bruce (plans at [www.sawg.org.nz](http://www.sawg.org.nz))



Selection of finished product

Pen press in action



## Thanks!

Jackie Russell, Media and Publicity Officer of South Auckland Health Foundation sent SAWG thanks at the beginning of the year on behalf of the patients at Middlemore and Kidz First. This is how it appeared on their website:

### Woodturners give for Christmas

MANY man and lady hours of work have produced stunning Christmas gifts for patients in Middlemore, Franklin and Pukekohe hospitals as well as Kidz First Children's Hospital. Two members of South Auckland Woodturners' Guild, Mac Duane and John Smart joined with knitting enthusiast Rachel Lunnon and became Santa's little elves for a morning.

They visited every patient in assessment, treatment and rehabilitation wards at Middlemore passing over exquisitely turned bowls containing sweets. Timbers used included, rimu, kauri and matai, to name a few. Rachel knitted cute cuddly toys for children in Kidz First and the wood turners had also made some heritage wooden toys.

Thanks for the kind-hearted gifts!

Further South in Pukekohe, Carol Slade was also appreciative:

We were fortunate again this year to receive a box of beautiful wooden bowls hand crafted by the Wood Turners in South Auckland. I would appreciate you passing on our thanks for their generous donation, and to let them know how much the patients at Pukekohe Hospital, Franklin Memorial Hospital and the Franklin Community appreciated the bowls. The staff were delighted to be able to give them out on their behalf.

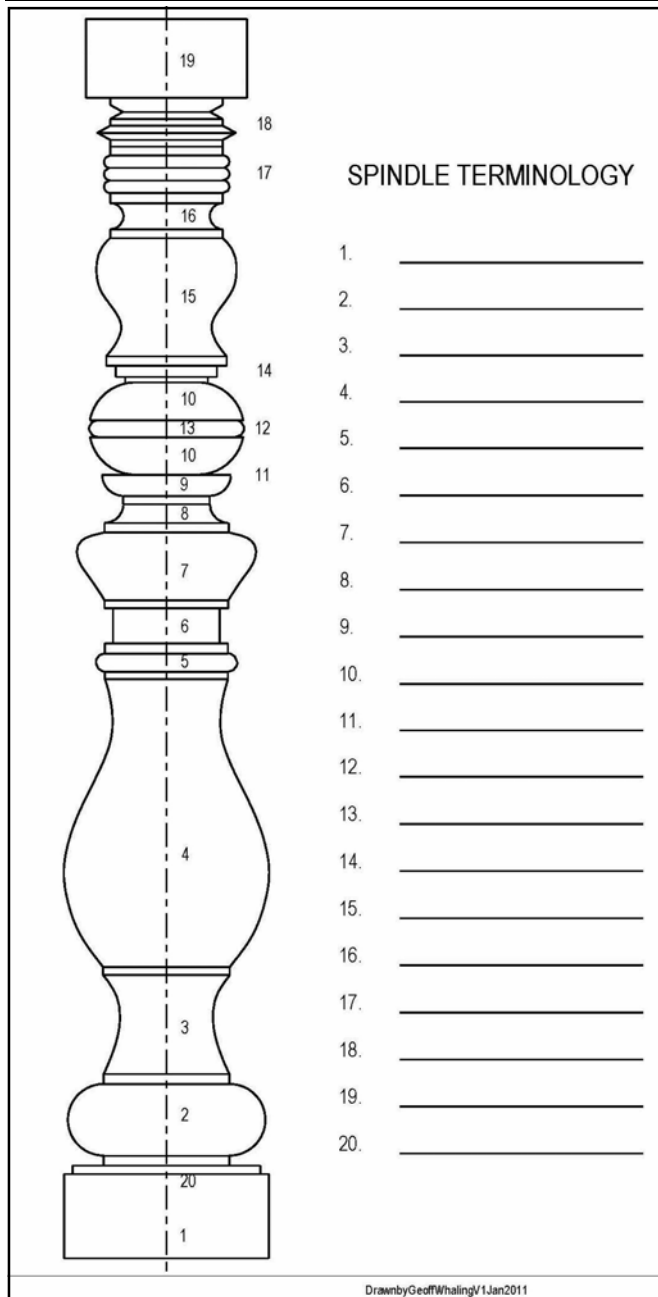
Thank you



Clockwise from left rear: John Smart, Rachel Lunnon, Mac Duane, Red Boyle and John Waddell



# Know your Spindle



Co-incidentally at the same time as Phread was about to present his demonstration on the skew, I came across this diagram from Geoff Whaling depicting the various shapes on a spindle.

Picking up on Phreads theme of a puzzle, I thought you might like to see how many parts you can name... (answers below)

Thanks to Geoff for his permission to reproduce this diagram.

1.	PLINTH	Large straight sided base
2.	TORUS	Large semi-circular shape
3.	SCOTIA	Sunken ovoid
4.	OGEE	"S" shape usually asymmetrical
5.	ASTRAGAL	Cyma-recta (large bulge below is Ogee, smaller than a Torus)
6.	NECK	Straight section in upper area
7.	OVULO	Protruding segment of an ellipse
8.	QUARTER	Hollow (concave)
9.	QUARTER	Round (convex)
10.	BALL	Can be elongated into an ellipse
11.	QUIRK	Transition between elements 9 & 10
12.	FLAT	End of the quarter round
13.	BEAD	Beads are cut into surface
14.	FILLETS	(astragal protrudes above) 3 stair stepped in reverse
15.	OGEE	Large bulge above (Ogee, cyma reversa)
16.	CAVETTO	Cove semi-circular hollow
17.	REED	Uniform series of beads, 3 or more.
18.	"V Cut"	Straight sided cut- positive or negative.
19.	ABACUS	Straight sided section at top
20.	SCAMILLUS	Secondary block or plinth, smaller than the plinth and with out moulding.

## Public Service Announcement

**"Would the inconsiderate owner of a silver Toyota Hilux, registration number 2-T-U-R-N, parked outside the clubrooms please remove it immediately. You will be towed!"**

*Evidently one car park on the club night of 30 March 2011 at 6:16 pm was not enough for one member. Imagine the difficulties he must have with parallel parking!*



# Turning for Aussie Flood Relief

Many of you will be familiar with the name **Guilio Marcolongo** of Victoria, Australia.

Recently, Guilio was invited by Alvey Reels Australia to supply five fishing reel spools to be used in commemorative reels to be sold in a fundraising effort for the victims of the recent Australian floods.

This particular design reel was first manufactured by Alvey in the 1950's and has the unique, side casting Alvey action (the reel rotates 90 degrees on the reel foot), (although Alvey first started manufacturing reels using Silky Oak in the 1920's).

The reel spools Guilio made are turned from Tasmanian Huon Pine. Each reel comes with a Certificate of Authenticity signed by Bruce Alvey, Managing Director of Alvey Reels who complimented Guilio saying they were "beautifully turned".

Ironically, it was flooding of the Alvey plant in 1974 that saw Alvey stop producing wooden spools, using instead more modern and durable plastics.

As of mid-March, one reel had already sold for A\$2500– perhaps a member of SAWG could initiate a similar partnership for our own Christchurch Earthquake victims?





## TIMBER

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