TURNING TALK

Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild

Number 134: June 2005

Coming Events

Franklin Arts Festival, 12 to 19 June 2005

Soren Berger visit, 12 June 2005

Treeworkx Open Day, 2 July 2005

Demonstration day (9 demonstrators) at the Woodturning Shop, 16 July 2005

Participation 2005 at SAWG Clubrooms, 5, 6 and 7 August 2005

National Woodskills Festival, Kawerau, 9 to 11 September 2005

NAW Woodskills Symposium hosted by Christchurch Woodturners at Kaiapoi, 16 to 18 September 2005

Tauranga Woodcrafter's Club Baycourt Festival, 8 and 9 October 2005

SAWG Christmas sale at Papakura, 5 to 24 December 2005

Timber and Working With Wood Show, 31 March to 2 April 2006

Royal Easter Show, 12 to 18 April 2006

NOTE that the Woodcut day is cancelled and the Treworkx day has shifted to 2 July.

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Craig Lockwood, Terry Meekan,

Les Sivewright.

Newsletter contributions to: 48 Manse Rd., Papakura. Or dveitch@kiwilink.co.nz or fax 298-5775

Our Website is www.sawg.org.nz

Club Night Programme

Second Term 2005

We meet at our clubrooms in the Papatoetoe Stadium Community Centre, Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe, at 7:00 pm. For those who wish to use the machinery, do some shopping, or get a little extra advice, the doors open at 5:00 pm.

This term sees the continuation of a Table Prize for each term – so keep your good work and lessons learned flowing to the show-and-tell table each meeting night.

Wed 8 June Auction Night. Bring your recyclable woodturning equipment.

Wed 15 June Lace Bobbins, as made by Cathy Langley, with a little history thrown in.

Wed 22 June Hollowing. Showing the basics and some helpful tools.

Wed 29 June The Ornamental Turner, now motorised and hard at work.

Wed 6 July From burl to bowl the Terry Scott way.

This is also the show and tell night and awarding of the prize for the project of the term – a honey dipper.

This will also be photo night for all those pieces that you have shown on the table during the term and now wish to enter into the Treeworkx competition in Creative Wood magazine.

Term three for 2005 starts 27 July.

Every Month, Rain Hail or Shine

Every Monday afternoon 12:30 to about 3:00 the doors are open, kettle hot, and lathes turning. All club members are welcome to turn wood, drink coffee, stand and talk, just stand and look. If Monday is a holiday, come on Tuesday.

Wednesday evenings, even during school holidays, the doors open at 5:00 for anyone who wants to be there. Turn some wood, solve a problem, share a story.

First Saturday every month is Upskills Day. Doors open 8:30am. Every turner can improve their skills, or help others to improve.

Second Saturday every month is Working Bee. Doors open 8:30am. There are always cleaning and repairs to be done. Your chance to put a bit back into the club.

Third Saturday every month is Ornamental Turners. Learn and share in this precision art.

South Auckland Woodturners Guild The 17th Annual Presidents Report

The 2005 woodturning calendar year has rushed past with a flurry of activity. Woodchips have been flying in all directions including as far away as Australia and Utah.

This has been another year of positive growth within the club.

Membership is now at a record high, peaking at 150 members, with a current 131 paid and life members inclusive.

Opening Day

It is official! On Saturday 16th of April 2005, the new home of South Auckland Woodturners Guild was officially declared open. About 50 gathered together to witness a blessing by local Maori, followed by an opening speech from Gary Troupe. We provided live demonstrations and an exhibit table of the clubs work. Lunch was generously supplied by Manukau City Council. Many thanks to all who supported our special day.

SAWG Website

Congratulations and a sincere thankyou must go to our Webmaster Rex Haslip. What a superb professional resource you have created for our club.

The website has been directly responsible for attracting many of the top demonstrating international turners to the club. Many keep an attentive eye on club events and turners as I found out during my trip to the States last year. I was not a stranger in a strange land but a familiar fellow turner in a global village. Thankyou Rex again for your regular upgrades of the site.

Clubrooms

It has been most encouraging to witness the increased use of the club rooms out side of club meeting times. The involvement of students in the life of the club is something being actively investigated at present. After all they are the future generation of this art form, and the earlier they start, the stronger the association with turning. It has been a special pleasure to welcome new members from the former Ellerslie Guild into the club, we hope the move has been a positive one for you all.

Fund raising Raffle

This continues to provide the club with valuable imcome, which in turn allows us to increase the resources available for members. The success of the raffle has seen many new items added to our inventory. Thankyou all for your support.

The Annual Christmas Sale

The annual Christmas sale is firmly fixed on the club's calendar as a major fundraiser, and continues to provide satisfying rewards for all those who invest their time in producing goods for sale. I would like to issue a challenge to all members to produce at least one item for this year's sale and experience the pleasure of marketing your work. Many thanks to Dick Veitch for the countless hours of

organisation he donates. This year saw 1818 items offered for sale giving the greatest financial return to date.

The Guild Shop

Many of you are actively using the shop as your first port of call when needing supplies. Thankyou all for the continued support. The enthusiasm of Les Sivewright and his continual introduction of new products has ensured shop profits grow along with the increase in membership. Thankyou Les keep up the good work/products.

Library

This has always been an essential resource for new and old turners. This year we have added a magazine subscription, namely The American Association of Woodturners, to our library collection. This was accompanied by \$520 of new books which has served to keep library patronage high.

The Newsletter (goes global)

Congratulations and a sincere thank you to Dick Veitch for the smooth transition from post to email with the monthly newsletter. This has proved a most successful and cost effective saving for the club. Many of you have informed me how much you value this publication. Turning Talk continues to keep all members updated on events and activities, especially when one is unable to attend meetings. International turners have also mentioned how they enjoy reading on the net the many events happening in our vibrant turning community. Thank you Dick again for the long hours of work you invest on our behalf both in the photography and editorial arenas.

Table Time

Practice does indeed make perfect in the world of turning. We have seen some great pieces produced, and improvement has been phenomenal. Thanks to all those who have supported the table on club nights. This is always a rewarding time for the turner and viewer alike. We look forward to increased support for the term project. This year three members were rewarded for their efforts with prizes from Treeworkx. Congratulations, and remember you must be in to win.

Events and Competitions

SAWG has been proudly represented at most major competitions throughout NZ in the past year. We have a body of fine turners emerging from a strong base within the club and it has been a pleasure to watch them grow over recent years. The nationally prestigious TURNZ event at Putaruru in October 2004 saw 9 SAWG members claim 14 of the possible 40 awards.

For the first time this year the Royal Easter Show was open to all NZ woodturners, yet SAWG members still managed to win 70% of the available categories. At the Timber and Working With Wood show, SAWG members won ALL woodturning categories including THE BEST CLUB prize. Thankyou to all members who volunteered their time and skills for the live demonstrations.

I mention these statistics not to brag to the world of our trophies, but to use them as a direct reflection of a club that has risen from modest beginnings to a dynamic woodturning facility that can achieve outstanding results on a national and international stage.

Participation

This event continues to be an important weekend in the life of the club, providing a relaxed fun environment for new, and not so new, turners to saturate themselves in wood chips, one on one, for an entire uninterrupted weekend dawn till dusk (apart from FOOD).

The Committee

To my committee, thank you one and all for shouldering so much of the load this year as my work has regularly taken me out of town. You are a wonderfully reliable and efficient group of individuals. I have a great appreciation for the various skills you have all brought to the job.

I would particularly like to thank the following people. Cathy Langley for her financial expertise in assembling the balance sheet. Dick Veitch again for his multiple contributions and skills in so many areas of club life.

Thankyou Mike Clausen for your regular updates and secretarial skills.

Mac Duane deserves special mention also for his ongoing services to the club in so many areas.

As I flip the calendar forward to 2006, I see it is full yet again with visiting international turners, seminars, and tutorials. Something I look forward to in the coming year, is those turners with the ability to travel forming groups and attending international woodturning conventions, seminars, and weekends. This provides the opportunity to gain new perspectives in all aspects of turning, as well as sharing what we learn with the club on our return. The firm friends one makes on such trips are well worth the effort one makes to get there.

Thankyou all again for another exciting year of turning and friendship. Keep those wood chips flying.

Yours in Turning

Terry Scott



Summary of Treasurer's report for 2005

Over the past year, the Guild's financial position has continued to strengthen. We have added four lathes, and each of our primary lathes now has a complete set of tools and a purpose-built table for tools and materials.

This was partly achieved through the generosity of Doug Tanner, and partly through members' contributions of time and materials. We also continued to ensure that our outgoings were less than our revenues, even though this was the first full year of paying the rental and utility charges associated with our new premises.

Over half of our revenues came from subscriptions and the weekly raffle, with Christmas sale commissions also making a major contribution. One-third of available funds were used to purchase lathes and other assets. Other significant outgoings were for rent; newsletter and other administrative costs, and costs for maintenance and supplies.

If you would like a copy of the Treasurer's report for the 2004/2005 financial year, please contact Cathy Langley (630-2091, c.langley@xtra.co.nz).

South Auckland Woodturners Guild Membership

At the time of the Annual General meeting the Guild had 131 paid up and Life Members. I think this continues to hold SAWG as the largest woodturning club in New Zealand.

Membership during 2004 rose to 151 but 23 of those people chose not to rejoin in 2005. However, as in past years, we can expect our membership to rise as this year progresses.

Of interest in the current NAW restructuring discussion is that 58 of our members are already members of the NAW; 52 are non-members; and 21 have not advised us of their NAW membership status.

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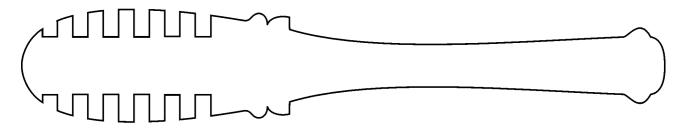
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Club Night 4 May. Honey Dipper, Project for this Term

This project was ably demonstrated by Terry Meekan using the notes now printed here for all members to see and use. We look forward to a fine array of honey dippers on the Show and Tell table on 6 July.

HONEY DIPPER

A project to improve spindle turning skills



Finished size 170mm x 30mm.

Tools required:

Spindle gouge Skew chisel Parting tool

Start with a 40mm x 40mm x 200mm blank mounted in a 50mm chuck. Bring up the tailstock for added security. Use the spindle gouge to bring it to a round shape.

Shape the handle using the spindle gouge and skew working the shape downhill from the extremities of the curve to the lowest point. Finish the handle end.

Shape the curve of the dipping end to the parting off point and shape the beads between the dipper and the handle using the skew.

Sand the entire surface.

Make the grooves with a parting tool. Sand again.

Part the work off at the chuck end using the parting tool. Hand sand the parting cut.

Skills - Handle - Spindle gouge. Turning the chisel to assist in making cuts. Bevel rubbing. Skew chisel. Bevel rubbing. Lifting the back hand to start the cut.

Beads - Skew chisel. Bevel rubbing. Roll the chisel.

Head - Parting tool. Making even grooves. Parting off.

Club Night 11 May. Identical Legs

from Craig Lockwood

Dave Harmes began with the story of how he was shown the light and started his woodturning career. He was making furniture and had someone make his turned legs for him. To start with the legs were ordered and delivered in a short period of time however each order took longer and longer to fill. With Dave's patience wearing out he thought about his alternatives. Get someone else to do it, no probably the same problem would arise, the longer he thought the more obvious the answer "I'll do it myself" So he purchased a lathe and then he began to practice, practice, practice, practice, you get the picture I think. Now back to the demo.

Dave explained that the initial design is best done on a piece of paper where you can easily rub out the pencil line and start again. You can use the drawing for reference with all measurements marked on the drawing. This also allows the design to be altered without even turning the lathe on.

With spindle turning the outer edges are moving quite slowly compared to a bowl of say 250 mm in diameter, so you need to turn spindle work a great deal faster. The thing to do is turn it as fast as you feel comfortable with, remember that safety is paramount and if you follow the advice practice, practice, practice, practice then you will be able to turn faster and feel safer. When turning ensure the tool rest face is smooth as any bumps or gouges will upset the flow of the gouge across the surface. Your tools must be sharp, that's Dave sharp. I think you all know what I mean. When rough turning your spindle from square start at one end and work your way back to the middle. Cut slowly and allow the gouge to do the work. The slower the cut the better the finish, if you cut too fast you will end up with ridges and that means sanding.

When marking the centres this needs to be as accurate as possible as it will impact on the finished product. Where the leg transitions from round to square, if the leg is not centered in the lathe you will see the result and the top bevels will not be even. A tip when turning multiple spindles you should make a template that can be easily laid beside the stock for quick reference and transferring of the original design. Also when marking stock you only need to mark one side. When the stock is spinning the pencil marks will appear as if they go all the way around.

Start at top of leg. Start the first cut at the top of the shoulder to avoid breakout of the stock. Now remark design with pencil (as the original pencil marks from the design will have gone when you turned it round) to identify design. To turn the beads on the leg present the gouge almost vertically and roll away from centre and it will form a bead. Through the entire project keep checking your measurements, remember measure twice cut once. When you are checking the depth with calipers be careful as the can fly if they catch.

To turn the leg you can use almost any gouge. Dave also demonstrated this point by using an axe as a skew chisel. Most people, writer included, have trouble with a skew chisel.

But if you follow the basic fundamentals you can't go wrong, that is rub the bevel. Dave uses the skew between his thumb and forefinger and presents the skew on the bevel and then rotates it to make the cut. The cutting portion is the bottom point and a little of the edge behind the point. Dave starts sanding at 120 grit and knowing Dave it's probably the back of the paper.

When Dave had finished he had two legs that I could not tell apart. So thanks Dave for your tips and hints on how you go about making legs.



Club Night 25 May. Sorby Tool Demo

from Cathy Langley

On 25 May, Ian Fish introduced Clive Brookes from Robert Sorby Ltd in the UK, who brought along a number of tools from the Robert Sorby range – in particular the Spindlemaster, a tool with a fingernail tip like a spindle gouge, but a flat surface instead of a flute. Clive showed us how this tool, when used instead of a spindle gouge, cuts the fibres rather than crushing them for a smoother finish. When used in place of a skew chisel, it achieves a similar finish with less risk of dig-ins and can get into some tight corners that can be difficult with a skew.

Clive also demonstrated the Sorby texturing and spiralling tool, achieving different types of spiral surfaces and a different textures, depending on the angle of the tool. This tool also has a scraping tip that can be secured in different positions to present a different curve to the surface of the workpiece.

Following the demo, club members had an opportunity to invest in what they'd seen with a good display of tools and other accessories from Ian Fish's range, and for those not quite ready to commit, the Robert Sorby catalogue was available with tips and information as well as products for sale.

Club Night 1 June. Honey Dipper Hands-on

from Cathy Langley

Since the beginning of the term, many people have brought in honey dippers, made with a wide variety of timbers and shapes and sizes. They have catered for all tastes and preferences, from those who have a serious sweet tooth, to those who like the idea of honey but aren't sure they want it on their toast!

On 1 June, those who hadn't yet 'dipped' their toes - or chisels - into the term project had an opportunity to do so. Many brought their own blanks, including rewarewa and mahogany from an old chair leg. Some of us used the generously-sized blanks provided by the Guild. (Those with a few clues made use of the bandsaw, and others off us spent some time perfecting our skill in turning a cylinder down to size.)

A good hands-on night with many lathes up and running.

Our Training Courses

One intermediate and one beginner training course has now been completed with many happy students taking home fresh skills and ideas.

The next course is for experienced turners tutored by Rolly Munro on 25 and 26 June. Book now to be on this course. If there are not six fully paid registrations by 11 June the course will be cancelled.

Book now also for the remaining courses this year:

Beginner with Terry Meekan 27-28 August

Intermediate with Shane Hewitt 24-25 September

Experienced with Graeme Priddle 26-27 November



If love is blind ... why is lingerie so popular?

Woody McMartin's Full Day Demo

from Cathy Langley

Woody McMartin has been turning full-time since 1987, and has had his own gallery in Wanaka for a number of years. His focus for the day was on the use of colour, using primarily renewable timbers. He has found in recent years that items decorated with colour sell far more readily than undecorated bowls with good form and native timber — which is a good development for the commercial turner, as attractive native timber is becoming more difficult to obtain at a reasonable price.

Woody made three items: A cork-topped kitchen jar or poplar, for tea or small biscuits; a large bowl turned from a laminated poplar blank; and a small kauri bowl. The jar and large bowl were completely painted with multiple layers of black and red acrylic paint with gold detailing, blended and partially sanded through to create a striking, complex finish. The small kauri bowl had a wide rim painted initially with black acrylic, with a thin overcoat of gold acrylic to create an antique look that contrasted with the natural finish in the centre.

The acrylic paint produced very different effects, depending on the way it was applied and sanded — rustic in the case of the jar, striking in the case of the large bowl, and elegant in the case of the small kauri bowl. Woody's demo provided the inspiration to try something that many of us may have previously rejected.

At the same time, attendees took away a long list of tips on techniques, tools, and finishing. This, combined with the non-stop humour that Woody is known for, made it a great day.





Ornamental News

from Rex Haslip

Whoever said "Ornamental turnings for someone else, I don't have all that expensive gear that's needed". Well if it was you, read on as you are wrong. Sure, if you want to do Rose turning or Swash turning, then you are going to need to get a bit more fancy in the gear department, but with a little imagination and some time, its easy and cheap to make the basics for straight ornamental turning, out of a few scraps of MDF. Key though is a little maths and some imagination and good old Kiwi Ingenuity.

In this the first of a series of articles, we will look at how you can fit accessories to your lathe and use your normal lathe as a basic ornamental turner.

The first place to start is an index wheel, a disk with a series of evenly spaced holes drilled in it that can be used to lock the spindle in a set position so that you can then "enhance" the work in that position. It can then be moved to another location, and the same thing done again. As you are no doubt aware, most lathes already have this feature in a limited way, through the standard spindle lock, usually 24 positions.

Now this is where the maths comes in. Generally, ornamental index's have 96 holes, and by looking into the maths, this will allow you divide your work into 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 16, 24, 32 and 48. This is not to say that you cannot use other numbers of holes, and the simple one I made first used a Protractor face enlarged on a copier. I used every 5 degrees, giving 72 divisions. This is limited, but does give some divisions not available from the other, namely 36, 18 and 9.

Start by making a disk of MDF with a hole in it the same size as your spindle, that will fit behind the chuck. Mark the hole spacing, on a single diameter from the centre and drill. How you mark its up to you, but if you drill it with an 8mm hole, a simple tower bolt will fit it and this can then be used as a lock.

The tower bolt can be mounted from the bed of the lathe on a piece of wood to suit, and there you have it, your work whether chuck or faceplate mounted, able to be locked at set intervals, ready for you to drill, cut, grind or other wise enhance it. This can also be used for spindles between centres, just mount the index as normal behind a faceplate, and then fit the drive spur.

Happy turning, and see you at the guild, 1.00pm, third Saturday of the month

Soren Berger

Full Day Demo

This is the NAW sponsored North Island Tour SAWG Clubrooms Sunday 12 June

Doors open 0800. Demo starts 0900 prompt.

Door fee NAW members \$20.00, non-members \$25.00

Tea and coffee provided. Bring your lunch.

Programme for the day:

9:00 to 10:15 Bowl turning using the ground-back gouge.

10:30 to 12:30 Making a scoop (his favorite is multi-axis turned)

1:30 to 2:45 Midi Hats (should be interesting).

3:00 to 4:30 Hand-chased threaded boxes.

Want to see more? Go to www.berger.co.nz



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Training Weekend With George Flavell

from Rex Haslip

28 and 29 May saw the first of the learner days start for Beginner Turners, and with 11 keen students enrolled, George Flavell as the Tutor and Rex as the "gofer", we set off to make shavings a plenty. It was encouraging to see a wide age spread amongst those there, and especially good to see a couple of young women as well.

In normal Gorge manner, first gouge to be mastered was the skew and within an hour of starting, all were peeling spindles of macrocarpa and looking to get into the more delicate and decorative cuts. By lunch time, the spindle gouge had been added to the arsenal and there were beads, coves and tapers on each lathe.

After lunch, George led the team through making a bud vase and that filled the afternoon. Key to the project was using the skills acquired in the morning session, and design was the turners open canvas. Amazing when you get 11 people on a lathe, you get 11 different design concepts and it was interesting to compare the finished product.

Sunday saw an early start and it was straight into bowl making. Again, following the theory, it was hands on turning and to see the looks of delight on peoples faces as they transformed a blank into a fine turned bowl, made the efforts for George and myself well worth while.

With the exception of a few "design opportunities that even the most experienced turner has from time to time, there were no dramas, and 13 pleased people went home Sunday night with a couple of projects in hand, a lot of new found knowledge tucked away for next time on the lathe, and some excellent memories of a great weekend spent sharing the joys of turning.



PARTICIPATION 2005

5th / 6th to the 7th August A Weekend Of Turning, Sharing, Learning

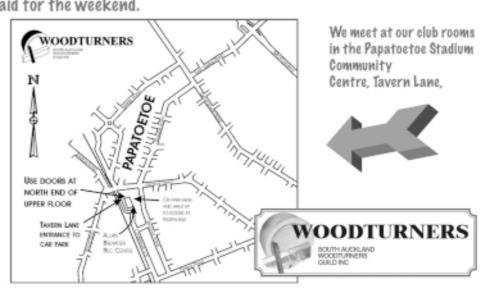
Set up Friday afternoon from 4 pm

Cost \$50.00 per person.
School junior \$10.00
Saturday only \$35.00 Sunday only \$15.00
Numbers are limited to 50 people.
Full weekend applicants have preference.
This includes morning and afternoon tea
Saturday and Sunday lunch, barbecue
Saturday night Spit Roast Company meal.
Partners Welcome Sat night \$25.00
Pinner served 6.30
Casual sightseers calling into the Club Rooms
will be asked to leave as this is not fair on
the turners who have paid for the weekend.

Make Cheque payable to the South Auckland Woodturners Guild Please reply before 23rd July as numbers are limited.

Things to bring:

Your lathe. If you don't have a lathe or yours is too big to get to the guild there are 16 lathes available for use. You may have to share if there are more turners than lathes. Tools Timber Extension lead Your favourite coffee cup ltems for the trade and sale table A couple of your recent works for the show and tell table Pieces that are giving you problems A piece of timber for the raffle Coins for the raffle





Name:	I will be bringing my lathe Yes / No (cross out) one	Number attending at \$50
		tangen of fourthill
Address:	Lathe type:	
	I enclose a non refundable deposit of \$15.00	Sat Pinner
Phone number:	with the balance to be paid on the 5th of August	Total

Deliver this application form with your money to....



Cathy Langley 5 Ashton Rd Mt Eden Auckland 1003

Soren Berger Training Offer

Soren will be in the northern North Island demonstrating at clubs as part of the NAW organised North Island Tour. He has time to spare and has offered to fill his time with tutorials.

Each tutorial is a four hour session at SAWG Clubrooms. He needs a minimum of three people paying \$50.00 each for each session to happen. The days he has available are Monday 13 June (morning only), Wednesday 15 June (to finish and clean up before 5:00pm), and Thursday 16 June.

Contact Mac Duane 299 6286 for further details or to book in.

If undelivered, please return to: The Editor, 48 Manse Road, Papakura, 1703.





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