



TurningTalk

Turning Tomorrow's Treasures



Issue No 183

Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild

December 2009

Christmas Barbeque

The Annual SAWG barbeque was once again held at Jim and Claire Downs' property at Pukekohe East on November 28th from 3pm till late. A fantastic venue and superb hosts.



Many thanks also to the Downs' extended family and friends for the effective and efficient behind the scenes work.

The weather was not the kindest, but this did not dampen the camaraderie and socialising of the 70 plus people who attended. The swimming pool was a pleasant 31 degrees C and

many made use of this.

What a great way to meet fellow members and their families – mix and mingle, talk, imbibe, talk some more – and not always about turning!

The food was plentiful and delicious, and what a great variety – well done everyone. (And only ONE wooden bowl in sight!! – Ladies what do your husbands DO?????)

The BBQ delegation found a challenge in BBQ-ing uncooked sausages, but with many helpful (and otherwise) comments from fellow 'woodies' the sausages were edible and just a delicate shade of dark!

There was live entertainment provided by a talented soloist imported from the Waikato. Background music, popular songs, and after supper a final performance of special songs and including her own compositions. Great.

The paddock entertainment was missing this year as the Portaloo was not connected to a tractor and thunder flashes were not available. A few members found that a trip over the Bombay Hills southwards was a new lesson in navigation but all made the venue (and we assume home again) and had a thoroughly enjoyable evening.



Our hosts, Jim and Claire Downs



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www.sawg.org.nz

Turning Talk– December 2009

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

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Cover:

Christmas Tree Decorations
by Phil Youens

Club calendar

All the activities listed here are in our clubrooms in the Papatoetoe Stadium Community Centre, Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe (see 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 can show and discuss their work.

For those wishing to make use of the machinery, do some shopping, check out our library, get a little extra 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.

Until Term 1 commences with our first meeting on 3 February, the clubrooms will be open during the term break from 5pm on Wednesdays.

TERM 1 2010

3 February	First night of term, Term project "A wig stand" with Lindsay Amies
6 February	"Visit your Neighbourhood Woodturner" Weekend
10 February	Embellishment with Terry Scott
13 February	Working bee 8:30am - 10:30 am at Clubrooms
17 February	Pen Making with Bruce Wood
24 February	Reptiles with Jim Newland
3 March	Hands On - Term Project (Wig stand)
10 March	Feet on bowls, Boxes and Bins with Dick Veitch
17 March	"Wood" Stories led by Bob Yandell
24 March	Teknatool with Brian Latimer
31 March	Last Night of Term - Laminating, judging of term project, life members award

Coming Events

12-14 March	Lake Taupo Woodturning Jamboree
26 March	NAW Shane Hewitt half day demo
26-28 March	Turnfest Australia 2010 , Gold Coast
24 April	Fishys Open Day
14-18 July	2010 Australian Woodturning Symposium , Brisbane

An up to date Calendar of Events can always be viewed at www.sawg.org.nz

"Macsim" of the Month

"The sun shines after every storm"

-Mac Duane



**The South Auckland Woodturners
Guild**

*is a member of the
National Association of
Woodworkers NZ Inc
and the
American Association of
Woodturners*



New Members

Welcome to the following who have succumbed to the turning addiction in the last couple of months:

Ray Hocking
Therese Diesch
Graham Goodwin
Bill Hardie
Spencer Currie
Simon Irwin

May your addiction be a long, rewarding and enjoyable one!



"Concentration"- New member Therese Diesch on a club lathe

A Work in Progress

Alby Hall (he of the 9 tonne kauri burl featured in Turning Talk issue #180) in Northlands "Kauri Kingdom" is pictured (below) trying to figure out how to get this table he is currently making onto his lathe "The Green Beast" (visible in the background). How he gets on will appear in next months edition.



Christmas Tree Ornaments

Phil Youens does a great line in Christmas tree ornaments (report and project sheets in "Club Night Action") but if you are looking for further Xmas inspiration, have a look at www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/ornaments.html for some more ideas.

Final Days- Wood Turning Blanks Clearance Sale

While Jim Downs has sold much of his stock of blanks, he has many left that he would like to see as turned articles. Half of all proceeds from sales made prior to 31 December go to Guild funds so do your stockpile a favour (having been seriously depleted with items for the Christmas sale) and help Jim and the Guild. Advertisement in this issue. Directions to Jims can be found at the following link- www.wises.co.nz/l/Pukekohe/Pukekohe/15+Coulston+Road/#c/-37.153921/174.965987/15/

Green Chainsaw?

Check out the carbon footprint on this baby:



No fossil fuels, smelly 2 stroke fumes, and best of all- if you cut yourself, it will only be some light scratches instead of a huge gash (certainly few OSH issues here). He of somewhat limited tools was sent this photo when he enquired online "who has the oldest chainsaw?"

Personally, I think I will continue to risk a bit more global warming.

Club Subscriptions

Heads-up that club subs become due from 1 January 2010. These are a very reasonable \$35. For this price, not only do you get membership of a woodturning Guild that is internationally admired but also free use of Guild equipment, the extensive resources of the Guild including tools and the library and also this newsletter. Not to mention of course the friendship and camaraderie of a group of enthusiastic like-minded people.

Renewal forms will be distributed shortly. Prompt payment is appreciated.

Taupo Jamboree

The Taupo Woodturning Jamboree is on once again at The Spa Hotel in Taupo from 12-14 March 2010. Entries are limited to 100 and close off is on **19 February** however word on the grapevine is that already the number of registrations is nearing the maximum so if you want to be in, go to <http://naw.org.nz/whatson.htm> to get your registration form in ASAP (don't forget to book accommodation).

Royal Easter Show

Entries for next years Royal Easter Show close on **26 February 2010** so it is a good opportunity over the coming break to get your entries ready.

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Tip from a Sponsor

The Guild relies on sponsors to support events like Participation and The Royal Easter Show to ensure that they continue to be the success they are and for which we are very grateful. We are fortunate to have many excellent sponsors and one of these is Alan Gater at GP Saw Doctors.

For those members who are not aware, Alan supplies many members with bandsaw blades as well as an excellent sharpening service. Alan offers the following tip for those of you who may not know what length blade to order. Alan says "Run a piece of non-stretching string around the wheels and measure the length of this piece of string. Then write this length in felt tip on the bandsaw".

Alan also recommends always having a spare blade on hand so you are never caught short when one breaks. If you want a new blade, call Alan on 2741700 and he will have it ready for you the next day at 21 Andromeda Crescent, East Tamaki. For a 14 inch bandsaw Alan recommends a half inch bi-metal blade with 4 teeth per inch. This will cut most radiuses that you will need for turning. While bi-metal are a little dearer, he finds that they last up to 5 times as long as a conventional metal blade.

Finally he reminds members never to try to cut a round branch without support to stop it rolling into the blade and to use a push stick. Thanks Alan both for your support and the tip – both are much appreciated.

Reminder- Working Bees

We are very fortunate to enjoy quality clubrooms that are extraordinarily well set up for woodturning however they do demand regular maintenance and cleaning. To this end, every month we have a working bee for a couple of hours. If you can spare some time, please endeavour to attend a couple of these a year. There are always muffins and coffee and it is a good opportunity to casually catch up with your mates in the club. The first working bee for the New Year is on Saturday 13 February – see you there!

Editorial

This, the last edition of Turning Talk for 2009, is the seventh edition of the newsletter I have edited (eighth if you include the near completed edition lost when my hard drive fried). I have to admit that it has been another of life's learning experiences and a lot different from my previous exposure to this sort of thing – writing copy for articles which I then had the "pros" take and translate into something that was reader friendly. Being on the other end has been interesting.

SAWGW budget does not go that far so I have had to rely on you, the readers and members of the Guild to provide me the material that some of you have mistakenly complimented me for. The compliments are not mine – they are entirely yours and I wish to acknowledge and thank you for making my job so much easier than it might otherwise have been.

I would also like to convey to my editor predecessors Dick Veitch, Mike Clausen and Bob Yandell my appreciation for the sterling work they have done getting the formula for the newsletter right.

Finally, a newsletter is nothing without pictures. Ross Johnson has done a magnificent job of getting these and I have thoroughly enjoyed his humour and appreciated his putting aside time and other activities to get photos of events and/ or meetings that would not otherwise have been able to be illustrated. Thanks Ross!

Of course, nothing remains the same and over time, this, your newsletter, will continue to evolve and I trust improve. I welcome your input and comments as well as the continuing support through articles, photos and what-have-you that might be of interest to members and readers – this month includes a recipe which will probably be a first ever in Turning Talk!

On behalf of the committee and myself, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year. Have a great break, enjoy family and friends over the festive season and see you in the New Year.

Turning Thought-Provoker-

"It is not about what it is made of nor how it is made, it's about inspiration of function that renders and touches the soul which makes craft, "art". Craft is based on functionality and spirituality is the basis of art"

Jacques Vesery 2003

Sourced from Douglas J Fisher "Moments in Time: the wood sculpture of Douglas J Fisher"

Carving Tools (with No Instructions) for Woodturning

By Bruce Powley

I got a couple of new carving tools from the Participation Weekend (these events are always expensive). I know these carving tools aren't designed for woodturning but I know a lot of woodturners like myself will be tempted to play with them on the lathe.

***"If you learn from other peoples mistakes,
you're a damn genius!"***

So I would like to discuss the safe way of using these tools and the mistakes I have made- there is an old saying that if you learn from other peoples mistakes, you're a damn genius! If I can save just one accident, then my job is done.

Let's start off with the meanest one first: The chainsaw disk. This cuts like a hot knife through butter! Now like a chainsaw it is very, very dangerous. But used carefully with a bit of thought of what you're doing, you'll be fine. A lot of accidents occur when people aren't thinking about what they're doing. There are people who are uncomfortable about using chainsaws. If that's the case, don't go there. Let someone else doing the chain sawing.

So think of this chainsaw disk as a chainsaw and use the same safety rules as a chainsaw. Use the bottom of the chainsaw, not the tip. You can use the top, but if it crabs, it jumps back at you. I have seen on TV very experienced forestry workers trimming branches off a log and holding the chainsaw with one hand, use the top of the chainsaw, which holds the chainsaw up as it is cutting the branch. Then they just touch the tip of the chainsaw to the stump of the branch that they have just cut and the chainsaw jumps up into the air and with one hand they bring it down on to the next branch. There is no way I would do this myself. But if you feel comfortable with doing this, go for it.

So to get the feel for this chainsaw disk and use it safely start off with using the side of the disk. Drag the disk gently and in the opposite direction it is rotating. If you move in the same direction as it is rotating, it can grab and fly sideways. It's the same as using a router. You move the router in the opposite direction as it is rotating. Take light cuts to start off with and to get the feel of the tool. Take bigger cuts when you feel you're ready to and not before.

As a boat builder, I have had and seen some pretty mean accidents with grinders. What usually happens is the edge of the grinder gets caught in a corner or edge, grabs and flies out of your hand. And it happens FAST- it's just bang and gone! I myself had a grinder fly out of my hand, spin around and cut two little fingers, which required five stitches. Another guy at work had a grinder fly out of his hands and past the side of his stomach. It cut through several layers of clothing and a pair of overalls and left a cut about 100mm long on the side of his stomach. Another colleague lost control of a grinder and it flew past his head leaving a nick on top of his shoulder.

So to the moral of the story. First be careful sticking grinders into corners and second if you're grinding an edge, have the rotation moving away from the edge. Apart from that the grinder is a safe and very useful power tool. It's the power tool in boatbuilding that we use the most often.

Imagine a big round or semi round cylinder piece of wood that you have just chain sawed. It probably looks a bit like a hexagon. Now like me you can't afford a huge band saw to cut the wood nicely round, but you can use this chainsaw disk and very carefully remove the corners and save a lot of clung, clung, clung when you put it on the lathe saving time.

Now what I did next is something a lot of wood turners turning large bits of wood will be tempted to do with a large lumpy bit of wood rotating at 300 rpm. It wouldn't go any faster! I rested the grinder with the chainsaw disk on the tool rest and slowly took cuts off it and in a very short time I had it round. It saved hours of clung, clung, clung.

Now here's not what to do. If you have the grinder rotating in the same direction as the lathe, it will grab and fly out of your hands, even if you are holding it tightly! The grinder went bang and disappeared as fast as lightning. I threw my hands up into the air and jumped backwards. I looked down and there's the grinder spinning in the shavings with electrical leads all around it and it didn't munch up any of the leads. I nervously bent down and pulled the plug to the grinder. I was so lucky!



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Woodturners “Turn” Up Again.

Michelle Kidd

For the third year running the South Auckland Woodturners Guild have arrived at Middlemore Hospital laden with presents created by the Guild members for the patients.

This year members Dick Veitch and John Smart both helped distribute the gifts of beautiful turned wooden bowls and vases, throughout the aged care wards – where they received a very warm reception. Another box will be taken to patients in the Franklin area and a box of handcrafted wooden toys are destined for Kidz First Children’s Hospital.

Operations Manager, Pamela Baines said the patients had been looking forward to the visit all day.

“It can be a very long day in hospital, particularly at this time of year, so visitors – especially ones bearing gifts – are very welcome”.

Accompanying Dick and John was craftswoman Rachel Lunnon, who has spent the year knitting woollen toys for younger patients.

“It is just something I can do in the evenings, that I know will bring a lot of pleasure to a child”, said Rachel.



Dick Veitch with Joan Wallace (L) and Marie Comins (R)



Maureen Lenton with Rachel Lunnon from West Auckland Woodturners

Stock Reduction Sale

Woodturning Blanks, Slabs, Planks

50% of proceeds go to SAWG funds

<i>Totara</i>	<i>Cherry</i>
<i>Tanekaha</i>	<i>Miro</i>
<i>Chestnut</i>	<i>Manuka</i>
<i>Matai</i>	<i>Rewa Rewa</i>
<i>Rimu</i>	<i>Pohutukawa</i>
<i>Kauri</i>	<i>Puriri</i>
<i>Kohekohe</i>	<i>Beech</i>
<i>Black Wood</i>	<i>Moreton Bay Fig</i>
<i>Oak Panels</i>	
<i>Black Maire</i>	<i>And Much More!</i>

Offer available until December 31 2009

Phone 09 238 6197

JIM DOWNS

**15 Coulston Road, R.D 2
Pukekohe East**

Club Night Action

11 November

The Saving of Wood with Bob Collins

Bruce Wiseman

An interesting and unusual evening demonstration on how to maximise the wood resources as we use them was to be seen at our club meeting on that night. The subject was listed as Wood Burls and the different ways of how to use them.

Bob to say the least was a congenial character of the old school who had spent many years working in and around the forests and the timber industry. When I asked him if he knew Gordon Pollard of The Manukau Timber Co, his reply was a definite "yes" and also his brother Carlton Pollard of Henderson & Pollard Timber Co. who operated mills in opposition to each other on opposite sides of the road. During these years he collected various woods and Burls from the waste piles of the timber mills around the Whirinaki and Urewera area, many of them wonderful examples of decorative New Zealand Native Timbers.

Since retiring, Wood turning for Bob is an income earning project these days and I understood him to say that he started on an old 1980 lathe. I don't think he told us what he currently uses, suffice to say that he was not super impressed with the Supernova chuck on the DVD demo lathe. He indicated that competition type finishes were not his aim as time was an important part of his operation and that wherever he could save time he was able to produce a greater volume for sale at a good average price. In saying this his product was not rough, articles on display were a great testament to his workmanship and ability to get the most out of a given piece of wood. Normal residual wood mass contained in a turned bowl from a blank is around



18%. Bob claims he achieves around 68% using his methods. This represents a massive saving in timber resource.

He has two suggestions for wood saving: either using a "Kelton" bowl saver or his own method of "Slice for Salvage" by cutting graduated rings from the outside of the bowl (to be used at a later date to decorate other bowls or product) before final shaping and finishing.

PVA or super glue is used to adhere these rings to other product. He suggests texturing to cover glue lines or timber colour changes.



"Bullshit" Burl
(the wonders of what you can do with a felt pen)

Angle cut slices from the inside of the bowl using a very thin cut off tool. Bob had some he had made from industrial band saw blade, which he found to be less brittle than a hacksaw blade.

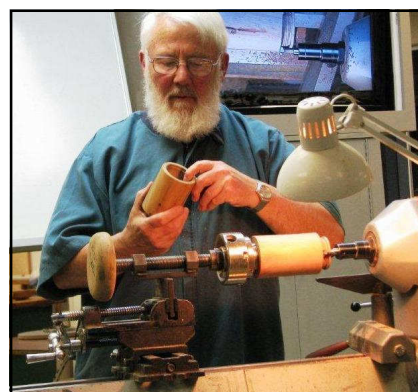
Some other ideas were to use tool parts as gauges for regular measurements. For example, "width of cutting tool" for "width of step" and another one- "length of each bevel" for "depth of cut". This saves time from having to stop and measure when producing small repeat items. He suggested that if using Rewa Rewa to decorate an item, that you should cut thin to avoid distortion and laminate to a stable base (Matai or similar).

All in all a most entertaining evening.

18 November Spinning a Thread

Dick Veitch

For some time now I have wanted to put a thread on a small wooden "travelmate" sewing kit I make. That dream remains but I have made some progress on thread making.



Fred Holder's visit last year was a real boost. When Fred said thread chasing would be one of his demonstrations, I set out to get him suitable native timbers - there was no way he could tour the country and not show us how to do it on our own woods. My initial inquiries revealed that few people were trying any form of thread cutting and all who knew a little referred me to the greater knowledge of Fred Irvine, a highly skilled woodturner just down the road in Hamilton.

His advice was clear - black maire (*Gymnelaea cunning-*

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hamii) is the only New Zealand timber that will consistently take a chased thread but maybe sometimes you can have success with puriri (*Vitex lucens*) or pohutukawa (*Metrocideros excelsa*). So Fred Holder put these timbers to the test and proved that Fred Irvine was right – use black maire only.

Fred Holder went off around NZ demonstrating thread chasing on black maire and left me to study my stack of “unthreadable” kauri (*Agathis australis*), puriri and pohutukawa.

But all was not lost. Fred had given me a copy of his book on threading. I had seen a jig in the Craft Supplies catalogue, and I had seen that the Teknatool ornamental turner could be used for threads. I would just have to try a jig, as spinning a cutter is hugely different to hand chasing. My first jig was a cross between a wooden construction I had seen, ideas from Fred’s book, and the all-enclosed Craft Supplies steel model. In simple terms, I obtained some threaded rod the same diameter and thread as my lathe spindle, two nuts to fit and some bits of steel to mount it on the banjo. My chuck, with the work in it, could then be moved from the headstock to the threaded rod mounted on the banjo, and a four-toothed ornamental cutter from Teknatool could be mounted on the spindle. With the cutter spinning at 3000 revs the wood was advanced towards it and rotated by turning the threaded rod. A thread was cut.

Wonderful, but.....I had already worked out that I would need two or three fine cuts to thread swamp kauri.....there was no way that I could adjust the banjo by the fractions of a millimetre needed. Mounting the jig on the banjo was a waste of time.

There was also a lesson about threaded rods. Just getting some rod and cutting it to length is unlikely to make a successful mount for the chuck. Either the end of the rod needs to be perfectly flat or the threaded rod needs to be made with a flange for the chuck to bed up to. I needed to be able to move the work with some precision at right angles to the lathe bed. Carba-Tec had made a special jig for just such movements but that was for a totally different sized lathe. The Teknatool ornamental system could do the same but there were none in stock. I hunted further and was pleasantly surprised to find that double cross slides were very cheap. The one I got had a vice on top so is also useful on the drill press.

The common movement sought from the cross slide is across the lathe bed so that thread cut depth can be adjusted. Having a second slide to move longitudinally adds an ability to move the work well away from the cutter for test fits and it also makes multiple threading possible. With the mechanical bits in place, further improvements were necessary to

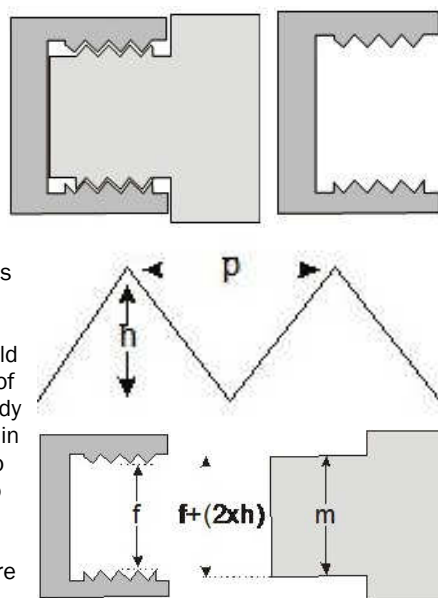
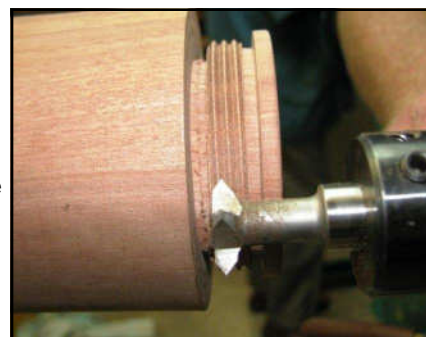
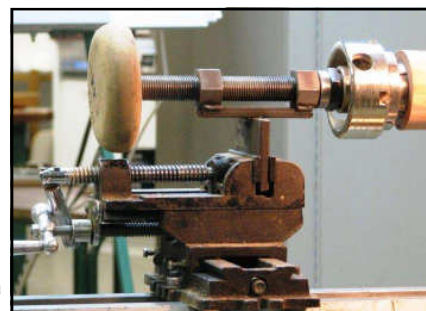
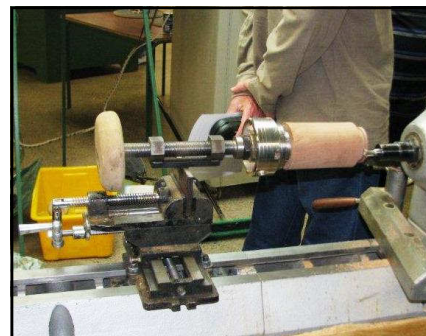
ensure a good thread and a good finished job every time.

The first, and possibly most important, is to work so that the cutter does its cutting as it goes into the wood, not as it comes out. So the male thread is cut as you would expect – from the edge of the work towards the body of the work. The thread in the female part needs to be cut from the inside to the outside.

As always, sharp tools are important. A cutter spinning a 3000 revs may appear to be doing a good job but a little touch with a diamond hone will make a huge difference. The shape of the cutter is also important. There may now be no woodturning cutters manufactured so you may have to put up with a metal turning cutter or modify one for improved wood cutting. A typical cutter has one to a dozen pointed teeth which have a scraper action on the wood. For the best cutting of wood these teeth should have a slight backward rake.

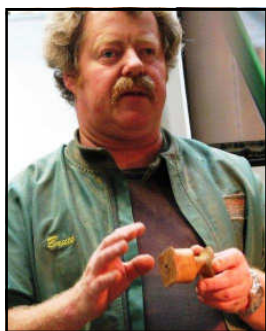
For a finished job that looks good, make sure that the two faces that screw up to one another are flat and clean. The two parts of the thread also need to be the same length and position in the work and there needs to be a “run off” space so that there is no

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Editors Sidebar:

In addition to Dick Veitch presenting his adventures in thread chasing, Bruce Powley gave a very good demonstration and confirmed the difficulty of successfully chasing thread in our typically softer woods. Bruce used both a commercially available threading tool but also had a crack at fashioning his own thread chasing tool. This, Bruce fashioned from a bolt cut lengthwise in half and bolted to a handle. Bruce characterised this tool as “requiring further work”.



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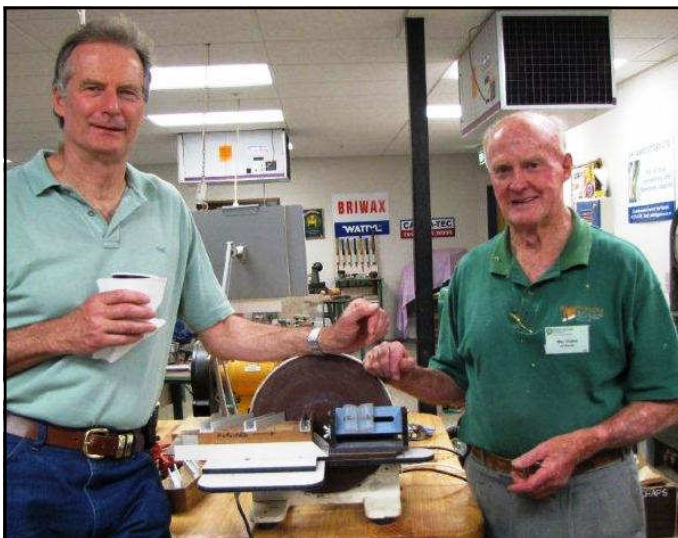
sideways push to the tail of the thread. The points of the thread need to be a little flat to reduce later damage.

When working soft woods it does pay to give it a generous coat of the thinnest, slowest setting superglue to bind the wood together before making the first cut. Plan on two or three cuts with further superglue applications between to achieve the required depth without breaking bits out.

The easiest way to consistently get the second part of the threaded joint to fit the first is by careful measurement and calculation. Calculate the height (h) of the ridges in the thread by taking the thread pitch (distance between threads) in mm and multiplying by 0.866. The width of a male second part will have to be $+ 2 \times h$, and a female second part is $- 2 \times h$. But remember to add or subtract a little to allow for the little flat that should be on the top of the ridges, and to allow a little space between the threads. (Recalculated and re-worded from Fred Holders book).

Now I can approach my threading choices with some confidence and my stack of kauri, puriri and pohutukawa can all be used. My main concern in designing the article and choosing the wood is just how much the wood might move when in different environments. The larger the thread diameter the greater chance there is of movement and a sticking thread. The further the wood is from the heart of the tree the greater chance there is of movement and a sticking thread.

25 November Some Sharp Innovations



Innovators John Whitmore (L) and Mac Duane (R) stand proudly with their Duane- Whitmore sharpening system

After some months in gestation, development and refinement, members were treated to the introduction of the new “Duane-Whitmore” sharpening station pioneered through the innovative collective genius of Mac Duane and John Whitmore (well, I am the editor and am allowed to exaggerate a bit). Dick Veitch then followed with his own innovative genius (now you know I am exaggerating) which he had applied to developing new “set-up spacers” to accompany the Tru-Grind sharpening system and ensure consistent bevel angles for Guild tools. He then proceeded to explain and demonstrate the use of the Tru-grind sharpening system itself that has been in use at the Guild for some period of time and forms the cornerstone of our Guild “sharpening standards” (see September 2009 issue #180 of Turning Talk).

The rationale behind the development of the Duane-Whitmore system is to provide members with an alternative sharpening resource to complement the Tru-grind or freehand options most commonly used on a conventional, double-ended, dry grinder. Perhaps the key differentiator with this system is that instead of resulting in a

concave (or hollow-ground) tool edge, turners achieve a flat (neither convex or concave) bevel. The principles involved are repeatability and ease of use.

Based on a 300mm disc sander from Carbatec and fitted with 120 grit metal-cutting abrasive, Mac and John recognised that one station could successfully be used by two separate and independent sharpening methods. Mac's system utilises the right hand side of the disc i.e. on the rising side and is based around an adjustable table with preset markers for bowl grinds of 35, 45 and 55 degrees. This side can also be used for sharpening scrapers with appropriate adjustment. By contrast, John's system uses the left hand (downward) side of the disc with a series of fixed jigs that currently give bowl grinds of 35, 45 and 55 degrees; 90 degrees for square grinding and 30 degrees for rectangular section parting and beading tools. There are other jigs to come based upon John's own advanced system at home where this form of sharpening has been used with great success for some 5 years. Whilst jigs have not yet been invented to sharpen either a fingernail profile or grind a rounded skew on the left hand side, pretty much every other common turning tool can be sharpened plus a number of very unconventional tools.

Now that Mac and John are both happy with the overall system, John will provide a full write up and explanation of the two systems which will appear in a future edition of Turning Talk early in the New Year.

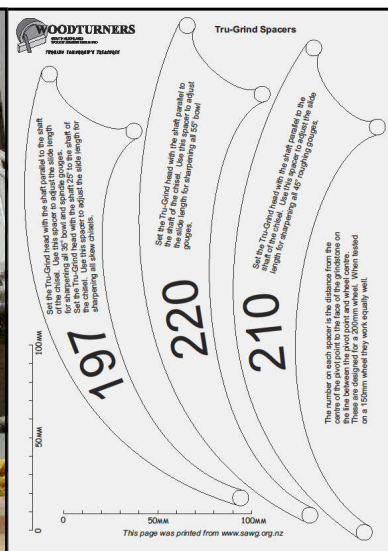
Congratulations Mac and John.

Advisory:

The Duane-Whitmore sharpening system is for use by members on their own tools and not Guild tools. This is not a reflection on the system so much as ensuring that the sharpening standards previously agreed and adopted for Guild tools is not compromised with resultant accelerated loss of “expensive tool steel”.

(Continued from page 9)

Following John and Mac, Dick Veitch introduced his own innovations for use with the Woodcut Tru-Grind jig. As users of the Tru-Grind appreciate, the standard jig is a great tool and makes sharpening (almost) a pleasure but there are still elements of setup which could be further controlled to enhance in particular speed of use. In his ceaseless quest for making sharpening easy as well as consistent, Dick has been investigating and researching various means of eliminating possible areas that might introduce inconsistencies in grind. While he would be too modest to suggest that he has achieved this advanced state of "Sharpening Nirvana", he has achieved in large measure this goal through two related means.



President Dick Veitch uses a spacer (Left)
and Spacer Specification Sheet (NTS) available at www.sawg.org.nz (right)

The first is to ensure that the jig-base tool holder "swivel point" is always a consistent distance from the grinding wheel, depending on the tool to be sharpened. This is achieved through the use of different sized "spacers" which when set against the grinding wheel, tell the user the correct distance to lock the base at, dependent on the specific tool to be sharpened. The resultant spacer is very simple in use as well as fast and I suspect that some number of quiet moments in a small room have been well utilised to get these right.

The second innovation is simple: to lock tool holders so the angle of the leg cannot be adjusted (and provide another tool holder at the grinding station).

Colour-coding both tool holders and spacers and providing at the grinding station an "Aide Memoire" (memory aid) to tell users what combination of tool holder and spacer are applicable for a tool/ grind are the final ingredients to what is proving to be a successful formula for achieving grinding consistency and ease for Guild tools, and of course members if they choose to adopt the Guild standards for grinding.

After introducing and explaining these enhancements to the system, Dick then proceeded to quickly demonstrate the grinding system in use.

Now that you have "Ease" and "Consistency" nailed Dick, can I draw your attention to making the tool "Speedy"- that is, as fast as freehand grinding!

2 December Christmas Tree Decorations with Phil Youens

Unfortunately, George Flavell, our scheduled guest speaker, for the night was unable to present (get well soon George) so with good grace and humour, Phil Youens was able to fill in for George on the night.

Phil has been turning Christmas Tree decorations for some time and proceeded to give members an insight into how he turns and finishes these fiddly but popular Christmas Guild Sale items.

Phil is to be commended, not only for presenting at short notice but also for the quality of finish he achieves on relatively low value items. He has a number of these in the sale and they have been consistent "sellers".



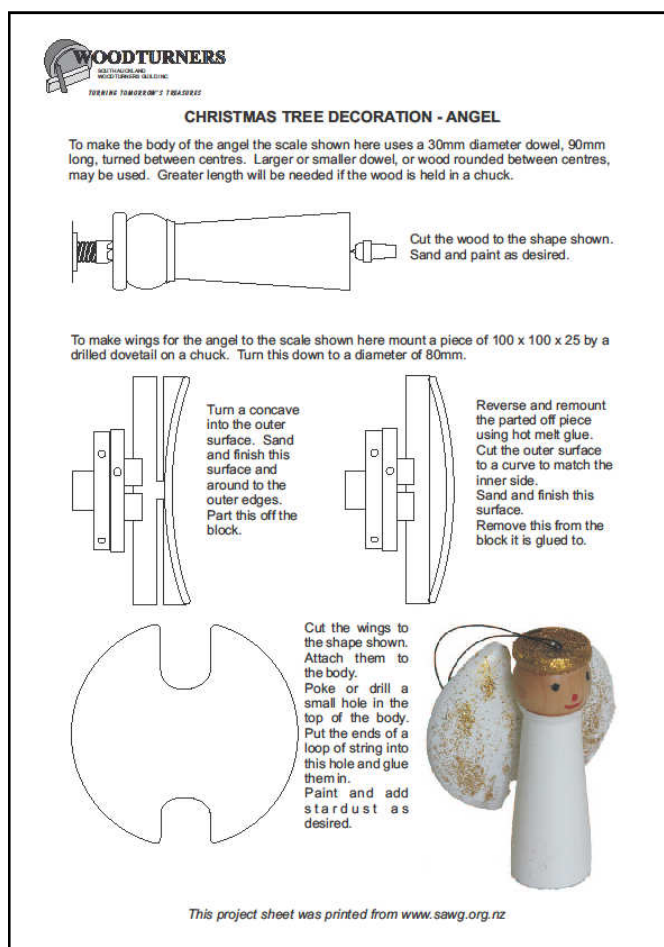
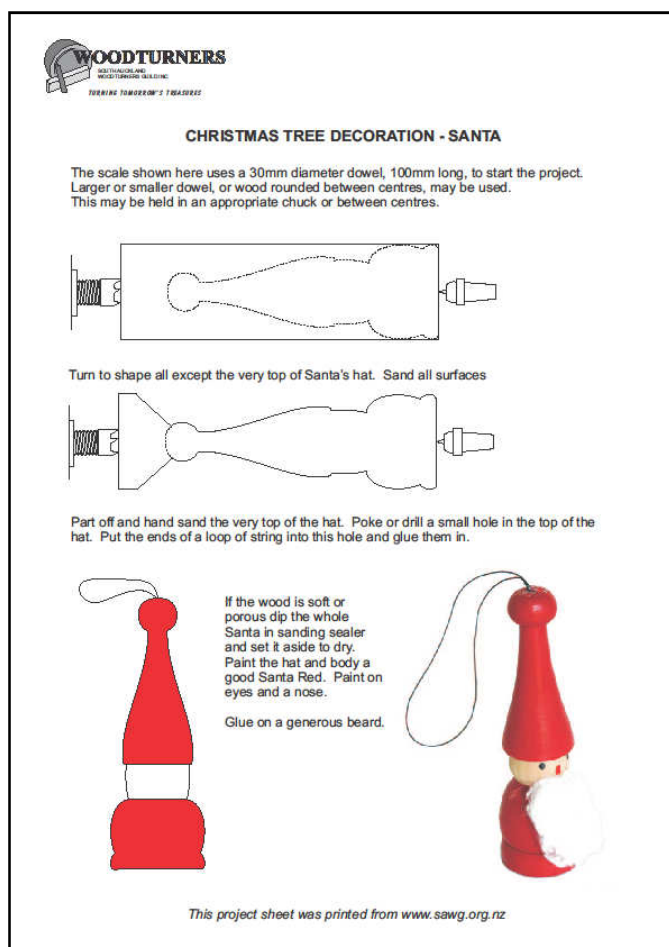
"Digits" Youens with his trademark grin

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

Our in-house graphix drafty has done some of his usual high standard graphics so in place of a long description, I will let Dick V tell you how these are made (there are pictures as well, especially for you, Mac)

To download these full size instruction sheets, go to www.sawg.org.nz and follow the “projects” link (may not appear until the New Year).



Very good and thanks Phil– good to see temporarily misplacing your digits hasn't kept you away from a lathe for long!

9 December Ready, Steady, Turn– “From the Garden”

Glyn Filer



Dick Veitch and Terry Scott (alias Worzel Gummidge & Catweazel) had a theme “From the Garden” as they walked in dressed like scarecrows, wheeling barrows. One had to wonder what we were in for?

Turns out, Dick was to challenge Terry to turn objects suggested by members using only garden tools.

Terry started using a large axe to turn a garden dibber, with great success (an axe-cident waiting to happen I overheard someone say– ed). He then used a hedge clipper (the steel inside the handle) to part off the dibber. Then, he used a hedge clipper blade to turn a mushroom from a rough branch. Next up, a ‘Troll’ from a large piece of wood. The big axe was used as a roughing tool, with the hedge clipper blade used as a skew chisel. The piece was held at right angles to the base in special jaws to turn the eyes, nostrils and ears. An ababatec tool was used to develop the face – white paint for the hair. All in all, a super demonstration.

Dick then made a trowel handle. He used a spade to rough out the



(Continued on page 12)



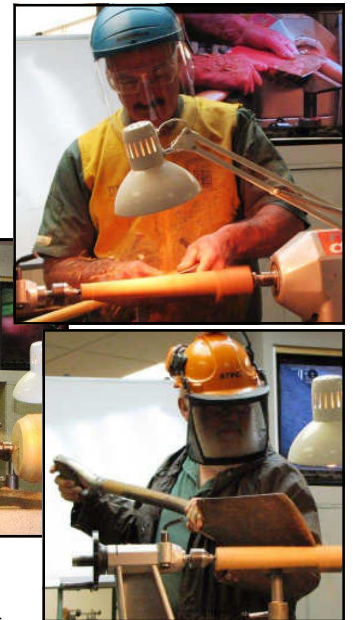
"Troll"

(Continued from page 11)
shape, then a trowel to finish off.

The message from both demonstrations was – Use the bevel.

Terry then turned a bowl for holding veges. He used a 5 foot long Waratah stake to turn the outside, using a hedge clipper blade to get a finish. A motor mower blade was used to sheer scrape the outside to achieve a good finish. The inside was roughed out with the Waratah, then with the hedge clipper tang, then finished with a sharpened length of 1" pipe about 5 feet long. **You had to see it to believe it!!!**

Dick then fixed a carrot to the lathe, peeled and chopped that, then peeled a kumara. The next trick was to use specially made fittings for holding a cabbage taken straight from the garden and shredded that – cabbage leaves flying well past the first row of audience and hitting the ceiling.



A great demonstration delivered with the usual good humour from these two.

16 December Last Night of the Year

Great turnout of visitors and members partners tonight which was great to see– hope to see more of you next year. El Presidente Dick Veitch led proceedings which included Awards, wrapping Kidz First gifts, raffles and a supper.

Commenting on awarding the Life Member Award to Lindsay Amies, Dick said that he had been delighted during the course of the year to see so many fine pieces on the "Show and Tell" Table and specifically referring to the candidates for the award said the Life Members had "an array of excellent pieces" to choose from.

What set Lindsay's Papakura Kauri Platter apart however was the "sharpness of detail" said Dick. Congratulations Lindsay.



Dick Veitch presents the Life Members Award to Lindsay Amies

Other award recipients:

Best "Kidz First Bowl"
"Happy Snappy"
"Lets Turn Together"

"The Good Keen Man"
"Nobel Pieces Prize"
"Organiser Award"
"Hosts of the Year"
"Digits" Award
"Mr Fixit"
"Border Control"

Tom Pearson
Ross Johnson
Darryl and Michele Pointon
Alan Day
Keith Hastings
Cathy Langley
Jim and Claire Downs
Phil Youens
Mac Duane
Terry Scott

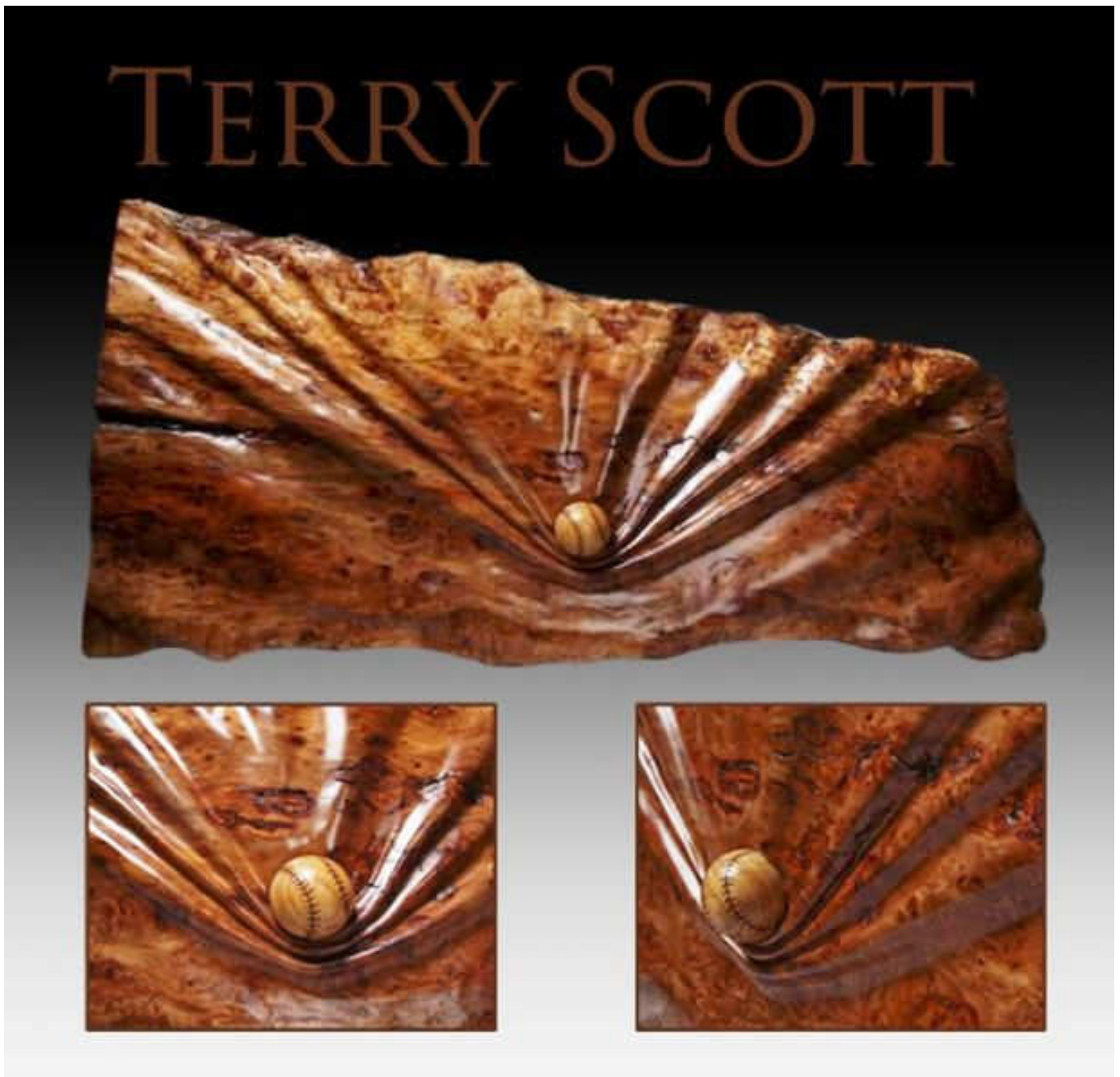


We have been privileged to see many fine pieces this year but one of the more dramatic is this piece from the shed of Terry Scott entitled “Home Run”.

The way Terry tells it, it was inspired when he and his wife Michele were folding the linen and noticed the lines created by a ball thrown into a silk sheet (as I said, this is his story).

Not apparent from the montage is the size of this piece. It measures 1.4 metres long and is 700 mm high.

Carved from a single slab of horopito 40mm thick, the base-ball is made of olive. Terry says that after finishing the sanding of this piece (to 4000 grit), he could have committed a burglary as he had no fingerprints left (although he acknowledges that they would still catch him from the DNA left from the blood let during the making).



(Continued from page 1)

A highlight of the evening was the presentation to Jim by Terry Scott. Jim had asked Terry to do a bowl saving exercise on a special piece of wood. Terry got carried away and not only did the bowl saving, but also turned and carved the bowl to produce an exquisite piece of art, with three relief feet and a decorated exterior. Jim was speechless.

Thanks again to Jim and Claire (and family) and may you enjoy next year's BBQ at a new venue where you can sit back, relax and enjoy.



Terry Scott presents Jim Downs with a bowl (inset) from a blank Jim had supplied.

Christmas Barbeque Recipe

WOODCHUCKS CHEESE BALL

16oz	Cheddar Cheese (Grated)
2 tablespoons	Chopped Gherkins
1 Clove	Garlic (Crushed)
1 Packet	Onion Soup
2 tablespoons	Mayonnaise
2 tablespoons	Tomato Sauce
1 tablespoon	Finely Grated Onion
1 teaspoon	Curry Powder
1 pinch	Cayenne
1 teaspoon	Lemon Juice
1 tablespoon	Parsley (Chopped)
Salt & Pepper	

Mix ingredients well to combine, roll into a ball and refrigerate.

"First-ever Recipe" to appear in Turning Talk? (finishes excepted).

Lynn Smart, wife of Raffle-Man/ resident Wattyl representative made this dish for the SAWG Christmas BBQ. It was quite a hit and for those who wanted details on how to make it, Lynn has supplied the recipe.

Thanks Lynn

Mini Lathes - FREE Loans

The Club has a few 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.



(Continued from page 5)

The second carving disk is simply a disk with spikes on it. It's safer and easier to use than the chainsaw disk. But a little common sense is required. With this disk, if the rotation is across the grain of the wood, you can really whittle something down to shape very quickly. But it really fluffs up the grain. So once you have your rough shape, you can smooth it down by going with the grain. I have found that after using this disk I had to go over the work with a sanding disk and take a good 2 or 3 mm off to get the scratches out.

So remember, as with any machinery, take your time and think about what you are doing and if you can learn from other people's mistakes you're a damn genius!

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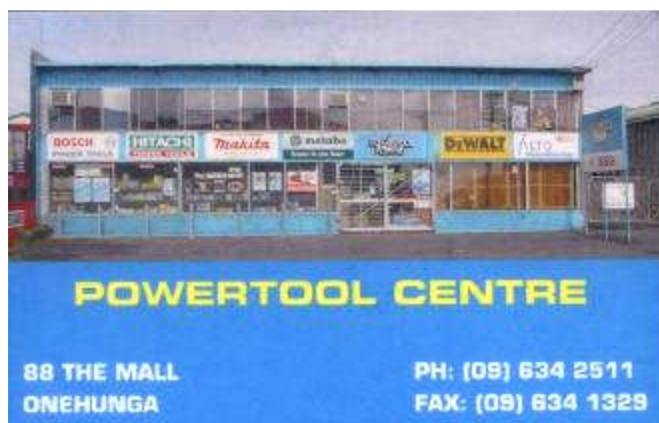
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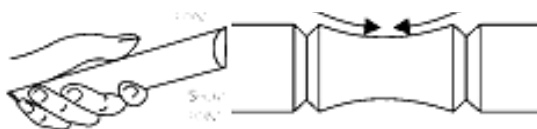
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