

TurningTalk

Turning Tomorrow's Treasures

Issue No 189a

Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild

Sept / Oct 2010



This column comprises comments compiled by Dick Veitch who tried to reconcile his own laziness and the knowledge that many club members do not like to write - except when depositing a cheque!. Repeated phrases like "I will be back next year" have been removed to save space. The accommodation and hall are booked for the same weekend next year, it will be limited to 60 lathes, and everyone is invited to do it all over again!



The scene in the Recreation Hall at Camp Adair 24-26 September 2010

Michael Bernard (Centre right) wrote: "What a fantastic 3 days spent in the company of wood nuts at Camp Adair. We had great facilities and a the biggest "shed" I have ever worked in. Some folks were turning by 10 am Friday morning and within an hour the place was jumping with the sight and sounds of turners making beautiful shapes from the vast amount of timber that was available. For myself, I think this was the best participation that I have attended. Part of this was the living in. You get to spend some non turning time around the dining table and the barracks etc. I had the good fortune to get tips and encouragement from some of the more senior club members and I take this opportunity to say thanks for all the help. You're a mighty fine bunch of people. The pack up was achieved without any great drama and I left the clubrooms at about 6 pm on Sunday, heading home tired and very happy. I finished some turnings that I was very satisfied with and lots of people now want to handle my balls which is a compliment

(Continued on page 4)



Michael Bernard (Centre) with Ian Fish of Turning Tools Left and Cam Cosford

"Participation 2010: An amazing experience"

Don Coutts

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Club Meetings:

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

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Credits and kudos this month:

"Participants"
Jim Black
Ian Connolly
Daily Hampshire Gazette
Mac Duane
Ross Johnson (Photos)
Tom Pearson
Gordon Pembroke
Terry Scott
Dick Veitch
Heather Vivian
Bob Yandell



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 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 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.

SAWG TERM 4 2010

1 Dec	Elliptical Turning with Andrew Bright
8 Dec	Drilling for a Three Legged Stool with David Dernie
15 Dec	Last Night of Year
18 Dec	SAWG Christmas Dinner

Coming Events

29 Nov-24 Dec	SAWG Christmas Sale
11-13 March	Lake Taupo Woodturning Jamboree
26 March	Scrollsaw Workshop
1-3 April	Waiora "Turn In" Otago Woodturners Guild

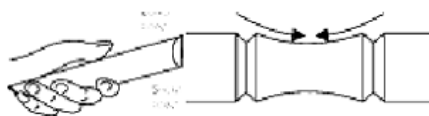
Regularly Updated Calendars of Events can always be viewed at
www.sawg.org.nz and www.naw.org.nz (including entry forms)

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.

Macs Maxim of the Month

"No Matter how difficult it looks, at least try it-
you will find it's not that difficult"

-Mac Duane



Shavings

New Look NAW Website

After a long stint reigning as NAW web supremo, webmaster **Rex Haslip** has retired and handed over the keys to hyper-space to **Paul Grainger-Allen**.

Paul has recently given the website a fresh new look and introduced some new features. To see for yourself, go to www.naw.org.nz



Rex continues his mastery role as SAWG webmaster so his web skills are not altogether lost to the turning fraternity.

Woodworking Challenge

Rockler Woodworking and Hardware have posted a challenge to test your woodworking skills with a game of workshop geometry. A bit of fun and addictive in the way that these things can be. Go to www.rocklerchallenge.com and give it a go.



Correspondence Inwards

As many of you are aware, our website and beginners guide are well respected turner resources, not only locally but also around the world and it seems with every issue this newsletter gets distributed ever further.

Recently, **John Darby** (Secretary of the Upper Clutha Woodcraft Guild) complimented our Guild on the quality of our [website](http://www.sawg.org.nz) saying "It is really worth visiting that site, I am so impressed that a site of this quality exists in NZ". John goes on to recommend our "Beginners Guide to Woodturning" written by George Flavell and illustrated by Dick Veitch saying "of all the literature that I have gathered up since turn-

ing to turning, this little book is by far the best value for money".

Congratulations and great work Rex Haslip, George Flavell and Dick Veitch.

And I thought I would share this from a reader in France to remind you of how lucky we are with our 'turning community at large in NZ and specifically at SAWG: "Thanks <for the newsletter> really informative I am just jealous that you have such a nice woodworking community over there; here it's just Crap"

New Sponsor

SAWG welcomes a new sponsor to our stable—**Karl Tickle Media Productions**. Karl produces Wood Turning DVD's and has supplied the Guild with 5 of his DVD's (12 hours viewing!) to give members a taste of the



quality of his DVD's. These feature a diverse range of demonstrator turners and turning subjects. When he first started turning, he (like many of us) turned to books and videos on the subject and quickly found that he felt he could improve on the videos currently then on offer. For a full read up, go to Dick Veitch's article on page 7 and visit www.ktmp.co.uk for more information on his products.

Mayoral Visit

Members had the opportunity at the club meeting on 6 October to meet supercity Mayoral aspirant Len Brown (subsequently of course now Auckland City mayor)

He was very impressed with the clubrooms and the good use to which this particular city asset is being put.

Subsequent to the amalgamation into a super city, the Guild will benefit from and enjoy a reduced premise rental.

Kidz First Bowls

Participation 2010 saw 49 people make 59 bowls for Christmas Gifts. These will be presented at the end of the year, after the addition of lollies and Xmas wrapping at our last meeting of the year.



Participation 2010 (Continued)



(Continued from page 1)
in itself".

Gill Coutts wrote from a wife's point of view:-

"I travelled down with my husband Don and his woody mate Murray from Whangarei to Auckland on Thursday - what an eye opener. There was so much wood talk it put me to sleep. They were on a high (first timers to your event). On the way home they were even HIGHER. What a weekend they had and they most certainly want to do it again. Thank you for giving them the best weekend they could have wished for.

John Whitmore wrote: "After lights out on the Friday night, a retired school principal (without his glasses) tiptoed into cabin 24 where he made his way to the far left-hand end and undressed. He then attempted to climb into the lower bunk - to the immense consternation of the SAWG Treasurer who was already asleep in that location. With a muttered apology, the trouserless retired school principal made his way out of the premises to cabin 23 next door, dropping his keys in the process - which were found on the deck the next morning. Hopefully, some valuable lessons were learned in the process."

Heather Vivian wrote: A great venue, food and accommodation more than adequate, only slight wish for next year is if you could arrange with the weather man to avoid having so much mud around. Catching up with fellow Woodies, some for the first time, others like us have been at participation since the first one at Doug Tanners, this comradeship is always very much part of the total enjoyment of a weekend spent with fellow woodies. We both came home very happy feeling we had achieved and added to our knowledge.

Peter Knox included a few impressions.

1. That 90% of the lathes in the hall were DVR's -the availability of modern technology on the march
2. The nature of the projects taken on by the participants and the quality of their outcomes that resulted had to be appreciated. Proof that the Aoraki Courses are having a significant impact on individual skills and abilities.
3. The strong influence towards texturing and carving skills being demonstrated through a range of aggressive hand tools.
4. The smoothness of the whole operation in getting machinery /lathes to and from the venue- aided by a team of eager volunteers
5. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting up again with old friends and having the opportunity to share ideas and accomplish a planned project for the 'design & form' module on a chosen Tanner lathe!!

Don Coutts sent a few quick words to say what a wonderful event you guys put on and how much Murray and he both enjoyed it and took from it. No complaints at all from our part (except perhaps the snoring - it was dreadful). And the help given to us was very much appreciated and resulted in us coming away better turners. Participation memories will remain with us.

Annita Fritz wrote: This is was my second time at Participation in Auckland, the venue was great, food even better, and an awesome time to see all of the great woodturners together, time passed too fast.

The Mabeys (Jill and Roger) wrote: What a weekend !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

(Continued on page 5)



Participants: (Top to bottom, L/R)
Warwick Day, Colin Mitchell
Brendan Stemp, Ross Vivien
Unknown (A visitor from Hawkes Bay?)
tutored by Jill Mabey
Roger Mabey

Participation 2010 (Continued)



(Continued from page 4)

- 1 An excellent Job from Dick ,Terry and committee
- 2 A great Venue
- 3 A great bunch of people
- 4 A great menu and food
- 5 A good bed ????
- 6 A lot of good wood to be turned
- 7 A lot of fun
- 8 A wonderful learning experience
- 9 A wonderful weekend
- 10 and a bad hair day.

9 out of 10 ain't at all bad Cheers every one

For me the weekend was about experimenting and trying new ideas. OK they didn't turn out as well as I thought they wood [the sign of a wood turner] but learnt heaps by doing and being there.

Another from **John Whitmore**: "Many and varied have been the tales of snoring experienced at Participation 2010. At around 1:30am on the Sunday morning I wandered out of cabin 24 heading for the gents. From cabin 25 came the most awful solo rendition, frightening in it's regularity and deep, sonorous tone. On the way back I walked the long way around and found that the offender was clearly audible at the furthest extremity of the accommodation. That probably kept possums off the roofs.

Bob Yandell: "Had the chance to get to know members and visitors and therefore understand their interests. People shared ideas that solved a problem I was either experiencing or that they saw I could improve what I was doing. How people stored/placed their "Toys & Tools" and this was a well of ideas not normally seen.

A suggestion for next participation is to ensure people don't sit at the same table at each meal break. Take a number as you enter or simply ask them to sit with someone else. Increase the bon amie / friendship.

Don Coutts (with a little more detail) wrote: On the Thursday morning the day prior to "P2010" my wife and I headed to Murray's place, with the Corolla Wagon already somewhat loaded up with my bedding, clothes, wood stocks and most of the gear from out of my workshop. Then Murray had to add the same as I had PLUS his 1624 lathe. And of course my wife didn't travel empty handed either!

With the car pointed skywards we decided it a good idea to add a few extra PSIs to the rear tyres.

Having shed 'she who must be obeyed' and her baggage in Pakuranga we headed for Carbatec to purchase the bits and pieces one needs to buy when visiting Auckland from Whangarei. What a coincidence, who should we meet but Terry with both Gordon and Brendan in tow. So nice to be able to meet all these people prior to Hunua. As David Jones and his wife had offered to billet us both (and what a most pleasant experience it was too) we had agreed to meet David at SAWG clubrooms, just in time to assist with the loading of the Mainfreight truck. You sure have a great set-up with so much equipment and so well set out. An eye opener for sure.

We were privileged to be able to go out to the Y at Hunua that evening to assist with the unloading of the truck, set up all the lathes and have our wood and tools ready to go next morning. And we did..... all day, into the night; Saturday on the lathes at 7.30am finally knocking off at 10.30pm stopping only for meals, and again on Sunday of course.

The real benefits for us were being able to tackle something new (in my case my first at-

(Continued on page 6)



More Participants:
(Top to bottom)
Ron Wallace-Wells
Brett Duxfield
Peter Knox
Paul Dangerfield

Participation 2010 (Continued)



(Continued from page 5)

tempt at an end grain green wood project) with all the assistance we asked for from Terry and Dick whenever needed. It may be a little selfish on our part but we came to learn from the Masters and that we did. Advice was always freely given, thank you team. We found all participants were so friendly and always happy to stop their lathes, give advice, discuss their projects, and generally be sociable. The same could also be said of the many exhibitors who support your Club.

Other memories to take away were the characters like Mac, John Smart the "raffle shark" and the Vivians; the shavings; umpteen raffles; the great convenience of all being at the one total venue; more shavings; the Ys great food, more than adequate for a bunch of dusty woodies; the wonderful creations that were produced over the weekend; and even more shavings still. BUT, don't forget the SNORING! I'm sure I was the only one in our hut to not snore, I never heard myself once!

Max Street wrote: "As a beginner the encouragement so freely given, even pro-actively made my weekend very enjoyable. Honest advice, like you should have sharpened your gouge before that final cut (from Dick) and can you feel that bump, from Scott. And then he went and got the magic glue stick which does not lie, and looked at my gouge and re-sharpened it to remove the ears.

Fellow woody's lending designs and tools as I tried my first vase. Terry's encouragement to have a go; with I have got all the gear you can borrow. With a design from the Whangarei guys and their hollowing tools, Dick's for the drilling gear and Scot's hollowing gear, plus my good mate from Blockhouse Bay whose Pro Form Tools hollowed better for me.

Then there were all the senior guys, like Brendan (Stemp) all the way from Melbourne keeping an eye on how you are going. Plus his comments on the small bowl which he judged as first prize, to me spoke volumes about the importance of design above all else.

Final Word from Don Coutts

(Writing on his return home)

Don writes:

*"Hi Terry & Dick,
A few quick words to say what a wonderful event you guys put on and how much Murray and I both enjoyed it and took from it. No complaints at all from our part (except perhaps the snoring - it was dreadful). And the help given to us was very much appreciated and resulted in us coming away better turners. Participation memories will remain with us and we will be back, if invited.
Thank you both,
Don Coutts.*



More Participants:

(Clockwise from top left)
Murray Robertson, Max Street (Ross Johnson background), "Mr Raffle" John Smart, Bill Alden, Robert Smith, Andrew Bright, Annie van den Berg, Chris Sieberhagen

Introducing New Sponsor

Karl Tickle Media Productions

Karl Tickle Media Productions (KTMP) has just traded with South Auckland Woodturners Guild five of their woodturning DVDs in return for some advertising. Check out their website www.ktmp.co.uk for more offers.

Formed in 2005, KTMP has developed into a significant UK media production company on the craft market.

Their first victim was Andy Lodge. A well known name on the professional woodturning circuit, his profile has been raised incredibly following this commission to produce a series of five films. This has been followed by filming of work by a further 13 well known woodturners and woodturning artists.

In their Lincolnshire premises they have a fully equipped wood-working workshop comprising of a Oneway 2436 Professional Lathe, and a Fox F46 Superlathe. Mainly Robert Sorby and Hamlet tools (including the full Eli Avisera range), various chucks and endless chucking jaw systems. Four grinding stations, 14" Record Bandsaw, Woodrat system with DeWalt 625 router fitted, routing stations, planing and thicknessing machines, professional rated table saw, sanding stations, trend router lathe, 12" mitre saw and a vast range of hand tools for joinery.

Karl Tickle is a retired IT Lecturer and Electronics Engineer after serving 25 years with the Royal Navy. Having produced many entertainment films for viewing by the Royal Navy, he has had several years of film production and editing experience. About himself he now writes:

"When I left school in 1977 I served an apprenticeship as an Electrician until 1982. After a couple of years of diverse jobs ranging from auto electrical engineering to crane maintenance on the Liverpool Docks, I decided it was time again, to broaden my horizons. I decided to become an Electronics Engineer with the Royal Navy and planned to stay for 5 years...It turned out to be 25!

I have always been very keen on DIY. Having owned three homes, and at first, with tight purse strings, I had to learn pretty quickly how to plumb, build and to do joinery. In 2004, I finally succumbed to the "Old Man's Hobby" of Woodturning. How did I get it wrong for so long? I always thought that woodturning was the kind of thing that people did in retirement and to be honest, without all of the re-kindled world-wide interest in the craft, I don't think that I would ever have become one of the fold."

The DVD list (note that some are a series of more than one DVD- see www.ktmp.co.uk for full details):

Andy Lodge, *Turning For Results Series*
 Mick Hanbury, *Professional Turning For All*
 John Berkeley, *Screwplugs Series*
 Carol Rix, *A Lesson in Fine Spindle Turning*
 Paul Loseby, *Simple Methods for Superior Pens*
 Colin Spall, *Let's Make a Bandstand Clock*
 Reg Sherwin, *Which Way Do I Turn? Series*
 Sue Harker, *Speciality Woodturning Series*
 Eli Avisera, *A Master's Course in Woodturning Series*
 Mark Raby, *Finishing and Colouring**
 Mark Sanger, *High Quality Woodturning Series* ^
 Lisa Raby, *Learn to Burn - Pyrography lesson**
 Simon Hope, *Hope for us All Woodturning Series*
 Nick Arnall, *A Journey Through Contemporary Artistic Woodturning Series #*

^ Two DVDs from this series now in SAWG library

One DVD from this series now in SAWG library

* This DVD now in SAWG library



KTMP
 If you like the view,
 So do we!

Woodturning School of Excellence and makers of DVDs
www.ktmp.co.uk
 Hunters Lodge, Church Lane, Strubby
 Lincolnshire, LN13 0LR, UK



Dick Veitch

Rolling it "His Way"

The lead article on the massive (2.6 metre) bowl turned using a modified truck differential and powered by a tractor in the August edition of Turning Talk prompted a reader to send me this article published in the Daily Hampshire Gazette (USA).

James Hume sits on a yellow stool in his garage on Adams Road in Greenfield wearing goggles, a dust mask and a look of determination. Covered in sawdust, he's literally having a ball.

Hume, who is in his late 70s, is sculpting what will end up being an 800-pound, 5-foot-diameter sphere made from plywood. He's already finished 1- and 2-foot versions and hopes in the future to create 3- and 4-foot versions to make a set.

"I do this because it's a challenge, it's fun, and because someone once told me I couldn't do it," said Hume. "When someone says something like that, I have to prove them wrong."

Hume began his career as a carpenter building houses and worked for local companies, including the former Rugg Lumber and Franklin County Lumber companies. He started working in the woodshop at Smith College in Northampton 25 years ago and began teaching woodworking at the school 12 years ago.

He said the sphere he is currently working on will consist of 86 $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch-thick pieces of plywood, which cost him about \$2,000. He said he'll end up using about two gallons of glue. He is working on the first half right now and will begin the second half soon, hoping to finish the entire ball by Thanksgiving.

He figures he'll have to sell the piece, if someone wants to buy it, for between \$7,000 and \$8,000, considering the time, energy and materials he's putting into the job.

Hume's 2-foot diameter sphere spent a year on display in JH Muse Gallery in Jackson, Wyo. It is headed to Grafton, Vt., at the end of the month to be displayed at Hunter Gallery of Fine Art, from Aug. 28 through Sept. 10.

Hume said to create his spheres he uses plywood and cuts various size rings from each piece. He layers pieces into increasingly smaller concentric circles. He glues and clamps them for at least a day. Once the glue is dry, he lifts the rough sphere onto a lathe he built out of 2-by-4 timbers and uses a router to refine the shape. When ready, Hume coats the sphere with a sealer.

The large sphere he's currently building is actually being made in two hemispheres, which will be joined. Hume said he doesn't use hardwood because as it dries, it cracks and chips too easily.

It's a slow process, said Hume. "With plywood, if you go too fast, you chip it."

Hume said he does get bored on occasion and will find something else to do, like build a birdhouse or a go-cart with his grandchildren or play on the tractors his son stores

at his home.



James Hume pulls the router on his homemade jig and lathe across the 5-foot diameter wooden ball he is creating out of plywood

He said he hasn't figured out how he'll move the 800-pound sphere or how he'll display it, but those are "minor details" and more challenges he's ready to take on. Hume said he takes great pride in his work and said he has a few simple beliefs he lives by.

"I really believe if you can dream it, I can build it," he said.



James Hume with the 5-foot diameter wooden ball he is creating out of plywood in his garage

Club Night Action

Wednesday 4 August

Jigs, Gadgets & Other Clever Tricks

We saw a great collection of clever stuff demonstrated with many practical ideas for use in our own workshops.

First up was **Bryden Thorpe** who demonstrated his method of turning spheres – 5 at a time using a home made device – a cutter which swivels on an extension to either the tool post, or in his case, a shop made base fitted on the lathe bed. A quick way to produce spheres. After parting each sphere off, these are held between centres, using wooden cups on the chuck and live centre while trimming off the stubs. Quick, easy and achievable by any one of us.



Mac Duane then showed us a range of gadgetry, including a **steady** made from skate wheels pinched from his grandson; a **jig** to support deep hollowing tools and prevent 'dig ins'; A **sanding drum** held between centres with a slit down the length containing a squashed aluminium tube – a quick twist with a screwdriver tightens the paper; A **Scotsman's scribe** made from scrap wood, nails and a pencil; a **sphere cutter** and rather cunning holder for making Chinese balls; a **dowel maker** for producing dowels for holding pieces of the Chinese ball in place during the hollowing process; **Cups** of various sizes for making spheres; **Car valves** with rubber pads and Velcro for home made sanding mandrels; A **laser light frame** for judging the depth of cut in hollow forms. Mac also showed the use of angle grinders for sanding, using keyless chucks with adaptors. Prices for this method ranged from \$450 for the flash one, down to a cheapo Ozito & 10mm chuck. Another use for a keyless chuck was to attach a handle and use this tool for holding different turning tools. Suitable chucks are available from the Powertool Centre in Onehunga.



Jim McCarthy then produced a vacuum chuck, which is older than Dick and Terry hasn't yet got one (Oops, yes he has). An early version using a home made wooden dome with rubber face and a handle, which turns to suck in the pad – similar to a holder used for carrying glass panes.



Dick Veitch finished the evening by showing a device for attach-

ment to a drill, which limits the travel of the drill. Good for accurate insertion of paua dots. He also had an assortment of plastic tubes/joints for fitting together lighting, using a 12 volt halogen light, magnet for holding on the lathe and a garden light transformer to bring voltage down from 240 to 12 v.. Then Dick showed his **tail stock handle** for improved pressure when deep drilling; A **tool post extension** for deep hollowing – similar to the Irons tool gate, but more solid and steady; A **mandrel and cones** for use when cleaning off and sanding the bottoms of hollow forms. This is the homemade version, which fits in the chuck and has various sizes of dowel and cones to suit the work.

Altogether an impressive array of tips, useful for all of us.

Report: Tom Pearson



Wednesday 11 August

Born to Bead

(Or "The Fine Art of Glass Bead Making")

Lisa Jane opened her talk by explaining the equipment that she had brought along. The principal items were the burner and the gases used to provide the heat required to melt the glass rods. The rods were of various colours and ranged in price from fairly cheap to rather expensive depending on the colour of the glass. The other major piece of equipment was the selection of stainless steel mandrel rods on which the beads are rolled. These rods are coated with a release agent that allows the bead to be removed after annealing.



Lisa Jane demonstrated how the basic bead is formed by melting the glass onto the mandrel while turning the latter so that a roll of glass is deposited on it. Hollow beads, or balls are formed by bridging over from base rings and surface additions can be made with different colour glasses. The shape of the bead can be adjusted by the

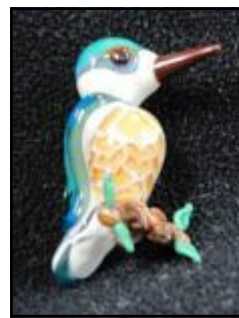


(Continued from page 9)

use of forming tools which come in a variety of shapes and sizes. The critical aspect of bead making is the annealing process where the beads, still on their mandrel rods are placed into a kiln and the temperature raised to fuse the glass. Once the glass has cooled the bead can be removed from the mandrel.

Lisa Jane handed round many examples of her work including bracelets and necklaces. One large bead had been formed as a globe with continents and oceans accurately shown. She made some suggestions as to how glass beads could be used in collaboration with turned items and how these would raise the appeal (and the price) of smaller pieces either as pure decoration or in a functional role such as knobs on lidded boxes etc. She explained how this could be increased by the addition of cabochons. These are made by a different process where glass is laid down on a flat or on a former surface.

An interesting question and answer session wound up this fascinating demonstration.



Report: Jim Black

Wednesday 25 August

Health and Safety with Tony Rigg

(National Safety Instructor, HEB Industries)

Tony related some of his work experience in the timber industry and past work-related incidents which we could all identify with, including the probability that serious injury in the workplace is more likely than that of winning lotto.

In many respects the subject of how to manage safety in the workplace is like trying to tell our senior Life Member how a computer works, or his grandchildren how to harness a horse to a hansom. However, we clearly need to understand and follow the health and safety system if we are to survive future, unpredictable, workplace accidents.

The clubrooms may be classified as a "workplace" and we, as regularly attending volunteers, are equal to employees in a workplace in relation to the health and safety rules. Thus we continue to be equal to employees when we go as club members to events like collecting wood. Likewise, the club may be considered to be the employer and thus has a responsibility to inform and educate members about health and safety issues. Following on from this is the need for a level of paperwork to record the information being given and the fact that it has been given.

"Safety should be a simple operation" was Tony's advice. When we have the appropriate steps such as safety policy, hazard identification, a safety manual, induction for new members, and other things, completed and in use I am sure it will be a lot simpler, and safer for everyone.

Our committee will need to work on all aspects of this process. We are already well up with the play by having our safety rules and safety equipment on hand. Action has already been instigated to ensure electrical safety. There are gaps to identify and fill.

Ideally I don't really want to see any safety system tested by a member involved in an accident. The paperwork may help us demonstrate that we have done the right things but it will be far better if the actions we take ensure that an accident does not occur in the first place.

Wednesday 1 September Miniatures with Colin Wise

Not "Doll's Houses", they are miniatures made to scale. The good scales for things originally English and built in feet and inches, like old houses, are 1/12, and 1/48. The miniaturist may make an entire house but often just a "Room Box" which is a single room complete in every miniaturised detail.



The Miniaturist Club scene is very like that of Woodturners with a lot of sharing and helping each other. Individual members may make kits of parts for a particular item which they then sell to other members. Care is taken not to encroach on the speciality of another member. Sales to the public just don't happen. This is very much a hobby which satisfies the maker, the family and other club members.

The club scene is commonly husband and wife, with more women than men involved. There are 26 clubs in New



(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

Zealand and 6 in Auckland. They hold a national convention every two years – this is non-competitive but with lots of show-and-tell.

The detail of the work is incredible. Floor mats are embroidery with 42 stitches per inch. The fireplace in the Room Box will have a mock fire with flickering light to resemble the burning fire. Mouldings are the correct shape and paintings on the wall correct for the period of the room.

A hobby with a huge array of skills that go into making a scene: getting it to look old; making each leaf on a tree; adding lichen to the tree; having the peeling paint or cracked brickwork; upholstery on a tiny chair; minute wood-turning; and extreme attention to detail.

To get that detail a good start is reducing the picture, to scale of course, on a photocopier. Then some members become specialists in cutting tiny bits of wood – macrocarpa cut with a 100mm saw blade – or laser cut fine plywood. Then there are the mail-order catalogues – surely the only way to get those tiny hinges and other fittings.



Wednesday 8 September

Marbling with Terry Meekan

To start, Terry commenced by putting wallpaper paste to about 40mm deep in a tray of about 100mm in depth. He then used some droppers to put several drops of blue paint, then red and a swirl of purple on top of the wallpaper paste. The paint was then dragged about using a small brush until Terry got a pattern he was happy with. The bowl (which had been previously coated with alum in the places he wished the paint to adhere to) was pressed into the paint and lifted out.

The bowl was taken to the sink and water was run over it to wash off the wallpaper paste being careful not to rub it. Once dry the intention was to remount on the lathe and tidy up the edges to get a nice crisp finish.

Terry then demonstrated on some more bowls, and managed to get some audience participation as Terry Scott and Bob Yandell had a turn.

Like many of our demonstrators there was a great deal of information to take in, but in summary you float paint on an agent then, lift it off onto your object.

There are a number of points to consider.

- You need to consider the depth of the container and the floatation agent as Terry demonstrated with a goblet you can make it more difficult if you do not have enough depth.
- When adding the paint to the tray you can use a comb, brush or any other implement to drag the colours around, giving an infinite variety of effects.
- If you want is bold a vibrant make sure you use enough paint, but too much will cause it to mix together and you will not get the variety of colours.
- You can lift the paint off the wallpaper paste by using paper towels to soak it up, this allows you to change colours while using the same floatation agent.
- The jar labeled Alum was Aluminum Sulphate which is commonly used as a mordant for setting dyes in fabric.
- Terry used a marbling kit from 5 Star paints in Christchurch, and the droppers were from the \$2 Shop.

As has been the case with many of our demonstrations, although it is not directly related to the craft of wood turning, it has opens our eyes to the ability to incorporate other craft techniques to help embellish and develop beyond the traditional view of wood turning and wood turners.

“Marbleous”

Darryl Pointon

“A great demonstration” Alex Bell

Report from Ian Connelly

(Continued on page 12)

Wednesday 22 September

Brendan Stemp Demonstration

What a demonstration!

Having met Brendan 2 years ago at Terry & Michele Scott's and again at Participation 2008 I was fascinated with his turning unusual things. I saw him again at Turnfest in Brisbane 2009 and watched all his demo's, made copious notes etc but when I tried to make something similar it sure did not look at all like Brendan's masterpieces.

So when Terry reminded us that Brendan was demoing at South Auckland Woodturners we hit the road two days early for Participation (thanks Terry & Michele for your hospitality) just to see him again. The demo was typical Brendan, everything prepared, the block already glued with the finishing piece of wood sandwiched between waste blocks etc.

The Silvangi or a Cantilevered Turning, that he turned that night was similar to the article he wrote for the Australian Woodworker May/June 2009. In this article he gives step by step instructions on how to do it. I cannot possibly describe better how he did make the piece he turned during the demo.

As I started this by saying. WHAT A DEMO, although Brendan kept explaining what he was doing, and showing a plan of how it was going to look, it was hard to be sure exactly how it was going to turn out until Brendan finally cut of the waste wood and presented the finished shape.

Absolutely fascinating.

Although I have been a member of the club for a number of years I don't get to many meetings, a little too far to pop through for an evening. Ross and I both really enjoyed the evening, it is always interesting to us to see how other clubs hold their meetings, the comradeship and meeting with friends,, listening to members explain how they had turned the pieces on the show table, the critique by Terry on the pieces for the life members award, congratulations to the winners, and of course the added bonus of seeing Brendan turning again.

Perhaps I will have another try at doing something similar.

Take note it would have to be similar as I am sure it would not look the same.

Thanks Brendan for a really great demonstration. As usual , we really enjoyed it. Ross & I would also like to thank South Auckland Woodturners for organising a really great Demo night with Brendan Stemp and the different Participation weekend. Fantastic. We have already marked the calendar for next year.

Report from Heather Vivian



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