

# TurningTalk

Turning Tomorrow's Treasures

Issue No 206

Newsletter of the South Auckland Woodturners Guild

November 2012

## Show and Tell

As always Show and Tell over the last couple of months has been interesting, and the development of many of the club members skill level keeps building as they seek feedback and learn new techniques. From beginners to the very advanced everybody benefits.

The variety and quality of work is astounding, with many aspects of woodturning and general woodworking being presented.



Terry Scott assessing Dick Veitch's hollow forms



Philip Johnstone is doing well to get any lathe time with 3 others in the household to compete with.



Robert Smith, now using a bowl saver to help his bowls multiply. This batch of bowls was particularly striking



Michele Pointon appears to be using techniques learned at the symposium to add yet more colour to her pieces



Colin Wise developing his skills further and using techniques from Aoraki and club demos



Graham Goodwin seems to be getting a lot of joy from making some very nice toys



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### Webmaster

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### Club Meetings:

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

### Club Rooms:

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

### Website:

<http://www.sawg.org.nz>

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### Contributors this Month

Andrew Bright  
Andrew Johnstone  
Richard Johnstone  
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Photos - Ross Johnson/Ian Connelly



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



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

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

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

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

## Club Meeting Programme

21 Nov	Oval Turning - Ted McKinstry
28 Nov	Tunnelled Ball - Bruce Wood
5 Dec	Saturn Box (Ball Cutter) - Dick Veitch
12 Dec	BBQ starting at 6pm - Life Members Award, Term Project

## Term 1 2013

30 Jan	Wig Stands - David Jones
6 Feb	Hands on - Wig Stands

## Upcoming Events

3rd - 24th December	SAWG Annual Christmas Sale
20 Feb 2013	Easter Show Entries Close

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

## Macs Maxim

**If Your Ship Doesn't Come In  
Swim Out to Meet It!**

- Mac Duane







## Kidz First Bowls

Each Christmas the club makes bowls and toys for Kidz First. Normally there would be a large number of these made at participation. If we can get every turner in the club to make a few small bowls then we will catch up on what we normally achieve. If in doubt on how to make bowls see the project sheets on the website.

## Christmas Woodturning Sale

3rd to 24th December 2012

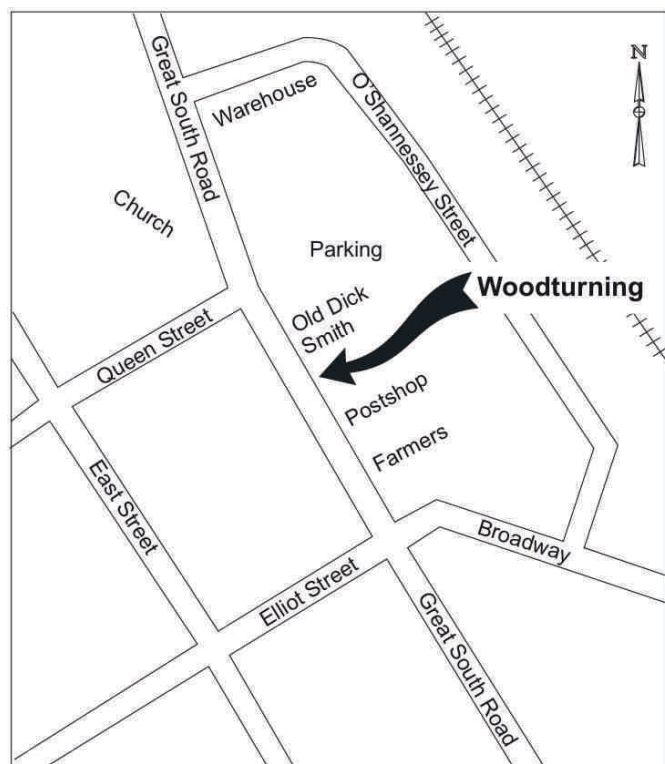
### Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00am to 6:00pm

Saturday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Sunday 10:00am to 3:00pm

In the shop that was the Pumpkin Patch Outlet, Great South Rd, Papakura (between the BNZ and old Dick Smith shop)



## 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



## Safety

Terry Scott found a couple of videos on safety, heading into the holiday season when a number of us are likely to be using our gear a bit more it is probably a very good idea to brush up on personal safety to help ensure we stay intact over the break.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xkZuLaSyQ\\_I&feature=plcp](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xkZuLaSyQ_I&feature=plcp)  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=luP3m1Ob51k&feature=plcp>  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=atwxP7vvoNE&feature=plcp>  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1944XjoRho&feature=plcp>

They have also been linked on our website at

<http://www.sawg.org.nz/wordpress/news/>

## New Chuck Coming

Gary Steel has let us know that Easy Wood Tools are releasing a chuck. Interestingly it does not have screws holding the jaws, instead it has a clip mechanism. It looks like it may be quite good for those that do not want to buy lots of chucks to resolve the hassle of changing jaws. Although it comes with a 1" 8tpi thread, and an optional 1 1/4" 8tpi adapter. This will limit the lathes it will fit on out of the box.

<http://www.easywoodtools.com/ci6.php>

## Easy Chuck™ Features

### Easy Jaws™

Using our patent-pending Snap-Lock Technology, Easy Jaws snap securely in place yet release instantly with the provided tool.

1. Release Easy Jaw with included Jaw Key.
2. Slide out existing jaw.
3. Slide in your next Easy Jaw and listen for the "Snap."

### Zoom Ring™

Quickly adjust your gripping diameter with just your fingertips.

Use Chuck Key for final tightening.



Grips 1 3/8" diameters  
Expands into 2 1/8" recess

(Other size jaw sets sold separately)

### Exclusive Features:

#### Strongest Jaw Design

Easy Jaws are held in place by the chuck body, not screws that are susceptible to shearing.

#### Safety Corners

Rounded corners of the Easy Jaws reduce chance of injury of knuckles.

#### Durable Components

Easy Jaw components are hardened and corrosion resistant for extreme durability.

#### Easy Chuck Accessories

Comes with the only two tools you'll ever need:

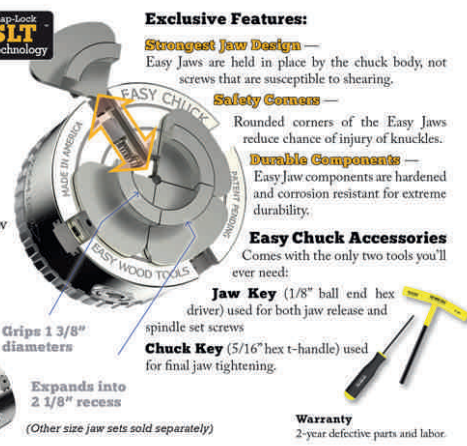
#### Jaw Key

(1/8" ball end hex driver) used for both jaw release and spindle set screws

#### Chuck Key

(5/16" hex t-handle) used for final jaw tightening.

Warranty  
2-year defective parts and labor.



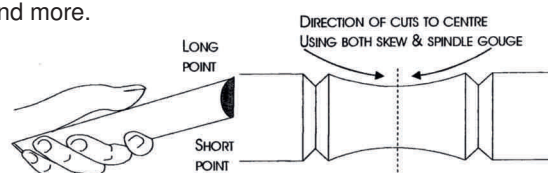
If anybody has anything that the club (or the many other woodturners on the mailing list) should know about then email [editor@sawg.org.nz](mailto:editor@sawg.org.nz)

## A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO WOODTURNING

Original artwork and text by George Flavell

Edited and computerised by Dick Veitch

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





# Club Night Action

Wednesday 17th October

## Something Up My Sleeve - Terry Scott

Report by Andrew Johnstone

Terry started by reinforcing the basic principle of rubbing the bevel on the wood. He said it was more important with burl because it is extremely hard and can shatter if you have a dig in. Sharpening was also reiterated because of the hardness of the piece.

Terry kept the toolrest well below center the tool handle down and the tail centre on for roughing. He uses a glove for the hand closest to the wood because the hardness of the wood and the grain of burl is random so come off in bullet like chips rather than shavings.

He was turning on a vicmarc face plate/screw chuck which can support a burl up to 40-50kg, the wood is so hard that you need to make sure you pre-drill pilot holes. The burls work out to cost about \$19nz per kg when wet, that price includes hydro blasting at 5000 PSI to remove the bark for importing into New Zealand.

He left a 75mm spigot which he would later carve into feet with a mini arbortech. He used a glue stick to get the right curve

Then he planned where the centre was to be so that the bowl was balanced and looks proportional. He raised the toolrest for small cuts under the wing, using the heel of the chisel to find the outer edge. A big negative rake scraper was also used to take very fine cuts and smooth out any ridges.

He would normally start sanding with 180 grit and organoil between every grade; going through to 1200 grit. Any scratches will show up when you put the final finish on, also fill any cracks with shavings and superglue which doesn't stain the wood because of its hardness.

An MDF ring is made to support the wing as the inside is turned. It is glued on with hot melt glue and supported with small wedges. If the burl is off balance then add some lead weights to the ring.

Terry turned at 1100 RPM and was cutting about 2mm back from the centre of the tool. Following the outside shape to about 4mm thick depending how heavy the wood is. Terry said to take slow cuts or else you might get spirals. He added a bead, using the rule of thirds, and used vernier callipers to see that the curve swept through it at the same height.





# Club Night Action

Wednesday 31st October

## Metal Ringed Mallet - Andrew Bright

Instructions by Andrew Bright

### Head

Blank - 70X70X130

Mark centres on each end and one face also.

Bore 19mm hole, 50mm deep in centre of face for the handle.

Turn down to a cylinder between centres.

Mark 55mm from centre line on each end. This is the spigot line for metal ring.

Measure inside diameter of ring you are using.

Rings could be Steel, Aluminium, Brass or Stainless Steel etc.

Turn your spigot slightly larger than your ring for a tight fit.

I allow 1 mm for aluminium rings as it tends to stretch. (he does use a press to fit them though)

I now grip the head on the spigots and turn the ends to a slight dome shape before fitting rings.

I now press the rings onto the head using a press and a die to press them on.

### Handle

Blank - 40X40X350

Mark centres on each end and another mark 5mm off centre on one end. This will be the tailstock end.

Turn to a cylinder between centres to approx 38mm diameter.

Cut a tenon 19mm diameter x 50mm long on head stock end - Check for snug fit.

Measure from tenon and make a pencil mark at 160mm and 260mm.

Make a V cut just past the 260 mark with the skew chisel.

Turn a taper from the 160 mark to the tenon.

Using the toolrest mark a centre line from 160 to 260mm marks.

Now offset the tailstock end to one of the 6mm offset marks.

Turn between these lines to within 6mm offset line. Cut V with skew to clean up groove.

Set to other offset mark and repeat.

Put back into centre marks and finish and sand smooth.

Fit handle to the head using your preferred method.

As this is a working tool I only put a sanding sealer on before use.

Sizes are only a guide and you may wish to make a smaller version to suit yourself.



# Club Night Action

Wednesday 7th November

## Balls - Dick Veitch

Report by Richard Johnstone

Dick began by explaining that it is a challenge to make a ball a specific size freehand. He has been asked by a lady to make a wooden ball of a specified size and weight. He tried several different types of wood, and finally settled on Pohutukawa as having the right density and therefore the correct weight. A large piece of wood is required to make a ball and it doesn't take much of a diameter increase to significantly increase the volume of wood necessary.

### Making a Swamp Kauri ball to a specific size

Dick chose to put a chuck bite on one end rather than turning between centres and turning the ball in the centre of the block. He used a roughing gouge, sharpened at 35 degrees to turn the block round.

Turn block over and fixed in a 50mm chuck with a live centre holding the other end.

There are commercially made jigs available. Dick showed us a Vermac jig. It costs more than the one which Dick made, but is more precise. Dick's tool uses the Baby Rolly fitted into the jig for the cutting tool.

Need to measure the diameter of the rounded block. Measure and mark the dimensions of the sphere. Rough out basic shape towards live centre with gouge. Repeat the process towards the chuck. The reason to cut towards the chuck is to allow space for the cutting jig to cut as close as possible towards the chuck.

Attach jig to lathe bed. Position below the centre line previously marked on the timber. Using a ball chain hung over the wood helps to position the jig accurately on centre.

Slow lathe to 500 rpm. Remove tailstock and turn off the remaining nub left at the tailstock.

Using the jig, keep winding the chisel in towards the centre while rotating. Don't take too big a bite. "This is the boring bit." Keep going backwards and forwards until the tool is cutting just at the centre. Use a cup chuck in the tailstock to hold the ball firm before cutting the chuck end of the ball. The cup can be made from any piece of wood and can have padding or cloth glued on to prevent scratches. Moving gently gets a better finish, too quickly and the tool will leave deep lines.

Move the tailstock away and take one pass over the whole ball. The pencil mark still visible in the centre will disappear on this pass. The choice now is to sand while still in chuck or to part off.

While parting off try to recognize the curve of the wood as you part the ball off. If you cut too straight, you will be left with an indent and will have to cut the whole of the ball down a little more to take out the dent. Be careful the ball doesn't drop off as you are parting off. Different woods have different abilities to hold on.

Saw the last bit off with a narrow saw blade. Re-fit the ball 90 degrees between centres with two cup chucks. Carefully power sand the ball keeping the sander moving to prevent the creation of a flat spot.





# Club Night Action

Wednesday 14th November

## Hobby Beekeeping - Roger Pye

Report by Nick Pollen

It has always been easy to hurry past a hive of live bees and think only about avoiding any sort of confrontation with the inhabitants.

Roger Pye gave us the “inside story” in every detail from setting up a hive in the back garden to harvesting the honey crop at the end of the honey flow season.

It will cost approximately \$500 to get started in terms of the gear to wear and the minimum hive requirements. A single hive will consist of two “supers”, knocked down ready to assemble, and ten “Hoffman” frames with plastic foundation for each “super”. (Hive box).

The hive floor, the “mat”, and roof are generally home-made. The raw timber is treated for rot and then painted.

A swarm of bees can still be captured between August and October. Otherwise, Auckland Bee Club members will sell three or four frames of bees with a laying queen to place in your new hive.

The “honey flow” starts in October and will taper off in March. The worker bees (sterile females) forage for nectar up to 2kms from the hive and use landmarks to navigate the return flight to their own particular hive. The nectar is converted in the hive by the bees, which digest it and process it into honey. The moisture content is reduced from 70% down to 17% by the bees. When the honey comb in the hive is capped it is ready for harvesting. In a good season and if the hives are well managed each hive will supply up to 70Kgs of honey after leaving enough for the bees to survive on over the next winter period.

Not unlike woodturning, the need for additional equipment starts when harvesting this sort of volume. After uncapping the frames of honey with a hot knife it is then necessary to spin the frames in a centrifuge designed for the purpose. These come in various styles from the simple hand driven version to massive motorised machines which reverse the frames to extract the honey from both sides. Fortunately the hand driven extractors are able to be hired from the Auckland Bee Club.

Liquid honey is then warmed in the household hot-water cupboard, put through a filter bag and bottled in plastic jars ready for use.

Roger revealed that there are some intriguing aspects to beekeeping. A couple that come to mind are as follows.

### Queen Mating

A virgin queen will leave the hive and fly to a high altitude where the strongest drone will satisfy his desire and promptly explode in the air and fall to the ground while the fertilized female will return to the hive and start laying 1000 eggs per day.

### Hiving a Swarm

It is nature’s way to increase the bee population by creating new queens in a hive. When this occurs the old queen will depart with up to half of the bees in the hive and create a swarm. When the queen settles, normally in a tree, it is possible to capture most of the bees by shaking them into a lidded container and then arrange for the swarm to enter a new hive. This is achieved by placing an empty hive on a new site. The beekeeper literally pours the bees onto a sack in front of the hive and they then march like soldiers into their new home. Judging by the flow of questions being asked during the evening’s presentation everyone in attendance had a most enjoyable evening.

Thanks, Roger, it was a pleasant change to our normal routine.



Roger Collecting a Swarm



Roger with all the Gear





# Gallery

I thought it might be interesting to put a few of the candid photos that Ross Johnson and myself have shot over the last few months. Most of the photos that get put in the newsletter are directly relating to the demo or show and tell. The club is more than that, it is a combination of all its members, families, visitors and others from the community that we interact with.

To keep the club strong and ensure that all the present facilities remain, such as training programs, newsletter, demos, participation/symposiums it is important that each member contributes where able.

When volunteers become hard to find, there becomes little option but to go with a roster. I find it frustrating that Bruce is finding it so hard to get people to write for the newsletter, and it is not really on to expect the demonstrator to write their own articles. If each person wrote one article a year, we would have it more than covered, not really that much to ask, eh?





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*Remember, if I cannot break it, no-one can!*



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