



Issue No 8 - Friday 23rd March

027 491 3868 Clive Wilson (Tutor)

2018



Turning of the week

HEATHER has produced her best work to date taking time and much care needed to shape this special turning of London plane wood.

The Beall buffing system was used to produce a clean, shiny smooth finish.

Lots of "Goodonyas" for this project.





Several club members were not able to be present at the Annual members' meeting last Monday, so to keep everyone up to date with club happenings I have included my annual report in this TT. Clive

Tutor's Annual Report - 2018

This report covers the period from the 2017 Members' Annual Meeting to 19th March 2018

For the first half of 2017 the club operated two sessions per week – Tuesdays and Thursdays. Due to demand for places in an <u>evening</u> course a Wednesday session was added half way through 2017. An increase in remuneration for tutorial services covering the second semester was agreed and Wednesday sessions got underway.

Roll figures covering this period were as follows:

		35		37
THURSDAYS:	(Sept 2017)	9	(Mar 2018)	14
WEDNESDAYS:	(Sept 2017)	12	(Mar 2018)	14
TUESDAYS:	(Sept 2017)	14	(Mar 2018)	9

NEW MEMBERS: We have enjoyed a steady stream of members over the past 12 months but real growth has been offset by the departure of members from each of the three sessions.

Currently there several vacancies in the **TUESDAY** session while the **WEDNESDAY** course continues to enjoy strong, ongoing support. Just last week the Thursday roll ballooned out to capacity. Already this year, **NINE** newbies have been enrolled.

The current **TUESDAY** course is well down on numbers as folk are away on holiday or have not re-enrolled for the first course of the year. In several cases personal circumstances have prevented members from continuing club membership.

Progress report:

Last year (2017) has been the most successful to date. We enjoyed a high number of members spread over initially two, then three sessions – TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAY evenings and THURSDAY evenings. The starting point for each new (inexperienced) member was the club's now well-established induction programme. The focus for newbies has been on building confidence in using basic skills. I am pleased to report that all those who completed the induction programme have moved on to self-selected projects and are currently producing quality wood turning projects. The club now boasts a majority of competent wood turners. Some members have become capable of turning out projects that would compete favourably with experts from anywhere.

Wood supplies: This aspect remains the greatest challenge. Our turners need ongoing supplies of good quality wood to motivate and challenge their techniques and tool skills. A few members seem to have little trouble finding ready-to-use wood while others might struggle at times. I have been able to assist by donating a large quantity of wood blocks for on-sale to members. This valuable wood is well seasoned having been stored in a shed for many years. In the near future I will add further wood to the club's storage racks.

Keeping everyone informed: I believe this aspect of club operations is vital. While we operate three sessions it is only on rare occasions that the three teams get together to interact and exchange information. This is where the weekly Tutor's Tidings (TT) plays a connectivity role. The weekly TT has become a major undertaking to inform every club member about: what is happening in the sessions other than their own; TT information papers enable the sharing of useful ideas and techniques; acknowledgements are made through photographs together with tutor's comments about club members' projects; notices of upcoming events are circulated to all and the TT serves as a platform for advertising when required.

A record number of 40 editions were distributed in 2017. I don't fool myself into believing that every member reads every part of every TT, but the news is there so people can seek it.

It's rather ironical but the most consistent positive feedback I have received about the TT has come from many folk who are not paid up members of the club. (The weekly TT is distributed to a wider audience than just current members)





WHOLE CLUB TURNING CHALLENGES



WHOLE CLUB turning challenges promote the sharing of ideas and foster camaraderie amongst members. They also provide a platform for members to take on leadership roles.

Three such initiatives have occurred over the past 12 months and further sharing times are planned

Tool sharpening:

This is an ongoing challenge for the club. Almost all members have had training in the correct procedures for setting up the jig at 35 degrees. (35 being the angle adopted for our lathe-rack gouges).

However, not all members accurately follow the agreed procedures on all occasions. This situation often brings about inconsistency of bevel angle and tool cutting quality. Furthermore it should be noted that not all of our members can recognize a dull cutting edge on a gouge, and in these instances, the use of a dull edge tool continues. Dull cutting edges contribute to striation lines (wood bruises) that must be removed either with continued cutting, using a sharp edge, or by lengthy sanding processes.

The two most common phrases I use at every session are:

- "Rub the bevel" and "Make sure your gouge is razor sharp"

A new CBN wheel has been fitted to our grinder so it is timely to revisit our tool sharpening procedures and embark on a re-training programme for all members. The incoming committee needs to decide how best to implement such a programme.

LATHE-RACK ORGANISATION (revision) -

Each of our lathes should have a rack of basic tools comprising:

- 1 X 10mm gouge. (replaceable tip)
- 1 X 13mm gouge (replaceable tip)
- 1 X 19mm gouge (replaceable tip)
- 1 X parting tool
- ! X skew chisel
- 1 X live centre
- 1 X spur drive centre)
- ! X 300mm tool rest
- ! X smaller tool rest)

Issues

1. While there is a colour system for tool set identity, over time this has become inconsistent.

Remedy: repaint sets as soon as possible (The same colour codes could be added to the drive and live centres)

- 2. Some gouges need new tips
- Not all lathes have ideal smaller tool rests.
- Overhead lights have been provided, but due to reducing effectiveness, some of these may be in need of replacement.

LATHE MAINTENANCE: This has been a cause of ongoing concern. It's a fact that our lathes are showing signs of wear and tear with symptoms as listed:

- Headstock locking pins vary in effectiveness.
- Tailstock locking levers requiring frequent adjustment to maintain effectiveness.
- Quill travel tracks and locking pins becoming loose and also becoming jammed.
- Spindle locking pins at the headstock can wear loose.
- Pulleys slipping on shafts

LATHE TRPLACEMENT PROGRAMME:

The club has recently purchased another second-hand DVR XP lathe that is expected to serve for many years. The committee is well aware of the need to maintain its focus on providing good quality machinery for members' use and has embarked on necessary fundraising through wood sales and grant applications.



No, this is not an XP It's the new DVR "Saturn" model

WORKSHOP TIDINESS;

I need to draw attention to this aspect of workshop operations as ongoing issues persist.

- The left hand side bench (jug and water heater side) is often left in a dusty state.
- The area around the band saws must be left dust free and all sweepings removed.
- The tool and chuck rack should be clearly labelled to guide members when returning equipment to that area.
- The band saw fences and angle sliders are often left in places hard to find. More often
 than not these accessories are not refitted to the band saws at session end. A
 consistently applied routine needs to be implemented to deal with the sacks of
 shavings and the drums of waste wood.
- "THERE MUST BE A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING AND EVERYTHING IS IN ITS PLACE". This well-known phrase is the basis of efficiency and workshop effectiveness.

What must be determined is exactly who should take responsibility for workshop tidiness and effectiveness then routines are established to ensure these vital aspects are enacted.



STORAGE and SUPPLIES

The cupboard with the two double doors has tins of never-been or seldom-used tins of old bits and bobs and is due for a clean out. I request that the committee restock these cupboards with a variety of oils, waxes and polishes to allow members to experiment with a range of finishes for their projects. E.g. Danish oil, Food Safe oil; EEE; Bri-Wax; "Glow"; Shellawax; Bees wax; Liberon

Rolls of graded Astra dot sandpaper have been purchased from Terry Scott and I have found that the best way of managing this resource is to cut disks into graded sets for on-selling to members. This approach has eliminated wastage and contributes as a mini fund raiser.

I would welcome a committee person to take over this responsibility for making up the sets for sale.



WHERE TO NEXT AND OTHER BITS AND BOBS

- 1. Whole Club Challenge: In about three weeks from now another whole-club challenge will get underway. This activity is especially designed to foster members' creativity, share ideas and have fun with known and experimental turning techniques. Some preparation work will be necessary involving cutting several 150mm cubes from our stock of macrocarpa wood. It would be appreciated if this preliminary work could begin as soon as possible.
- 2. Effective, efficient storage: Issue and retrieval of the club's smaller item e.g. steb centres, glue, ferrules etc could be stored in clear plastic, lidded containers. Mega Mitre 10 have "Systema" containers currently on sale. \$18 for four. I expect we will need 20 containers.
- **3. Crockery etc:** Our morning tea/lunch provisions, cups, tea, coffee and cutlery need to be stored in a dust free area. The provision of a shelved, upright cupboard placed on the LH bench would serve as a useful, healthier facility. I pause here to acknowledge Jan Plumley for her regular effort and taking a lead role in the morning tea routines.
- **4. RAGS:** The club is short of suitable, clean rags. If these cannot be obtained from throwout donations from members then the committee may need to consider purchasing a mega-rag bag from a commercial supplier.
- 5. **Membership Drive:** The upcoming **WAIKATO SHOW** will be an excellent opportunity for club promotion with a special focus on increasing club membership. The organization and administration for this event is currently underway. For this year's show I recommend that two lathes are used for demonstrations. A standard DVR for spindle and bowl making while the smaller Comet lathe could be used for making giveaway spinning tops. A rota of three club members to attend the stall throughout the show would enable two people to demonstrate on the lathes while the third person could be



Woodturning and the Internet

This Week's Video Clip

TOOL STEELS. This video will help you understand the different types of tool steels. The video will help you make decisions about what tool you should consider buying. Not all steels are the same. Some tools are excellent and some are best left in the shop selling them. Learn about the different types of steels: M2; Kyro steel; M4 HSS; PM; and M42HSS steel. WHICH TOOL SHOULD YOU BUY? WHY?

Go to your internet

Type in: woodturnerscatalog.com

Click on: Hand Tools

Turning Tools

Bowl and Spindle tools Guide to Tool Steels

WATCH VIDEO

Make a few notes for future referral.



Especially note the various qualities of the different steels. What steel would be best for you to buy?.



(friction polish) EEE cutting compound; Traditional wax. Check out our cupboard for other finishing products. – Maxwax, Beeswax, Danish Oil, Ian Fish special, lacquer, etc etc.

These products have been added to the club's consumable equipment to be used ONLY in an *experimental way. NO general regular, use please.

If you would like to *try these products because you have not used them before then feel free to do so prior to buying your own supply.(i.e. try before you buy)

Other than our new turners, club members should have their own pot of EEE for personal use. (Everyone should try using the Traditional wax over the EEE- have a go!)

Workshop Happenings This Past Week



AARON used four different woods to complete his nifty lidded pot/bowl. Next project? How about a large bowl with carved enhancements? YOUKINDOIT!



RIKIHANA will collect a few brownie points when he gets home with this little gem. Photo shows a well-crafted and superbly finished swamp kauri taonga.



KELLY has made rapid progress with her basic turning skills and has launched into projects with a difference. Check out this scorched cedar bowl. Woo hoo! Goodonya Kelly.



MALCOLM used a small block of gummy swamp kauri to turn this mini bowl. No scratches, no stria, and a great finish. A job well done.



DIMA and **MADELEINE** proudly display their very first woodturning project.

The smile on the faces of these two newbies says it all. Success and satisfaction are obvious outcomes of enthusiasm and the learning of new skills.

Making a knockout bar is the first project our newbies undertake. This is because the process involves a wide range of essential skills for successful woodturning.

Well done, goodonya to both and now look forward to consolidating those skills in the next project.

Making a Bud Vase

The Friday Flashback



Bowl made in 2014. Swirly, whirly beautiful grain features.

Preliminary notice for upcoming WHOLE CLUB fun challenge.

This challenge will start in about three weeks from now. (And will operate for three weeks.)

Each member will receive a cube of macro wood 150mm X 150mm X 150mm.

The challenge is to turn absolutely whatever you want from that cube of wood. Using only that cube of wood you can make one or several objects, the choice is yours.

All items turned will be put on display.

Cheers,

OK Start planning your ideas

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Clive