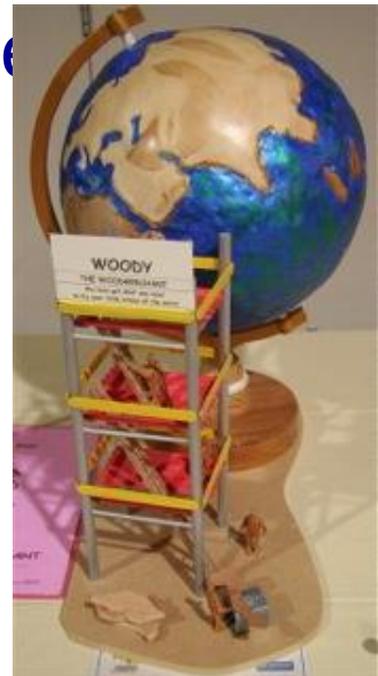


**Christchurch
Woodturners
Association Inc.**

Splinters

Newsletter of the Christchurch
Woodturners' Association Inc.

www.woodturning.org.nz



Seven more club members have graduated from the Aoraki Course, and with aplomb. There was an impressive display of turned items, real variety from half a dozen turners. Some future heirlooms were shown, all intriguing and/or beautiful in their own right, like Keith McFadden's globe, right.

The seven members of graduating Aoraki class number six: clockwise from back left: Ian Conway, John Matthieson, Keith Dunlop, Joe Hayes, Keith McFadden, Keith Jenkin and James Hsu.

More words and pictures on page 3.

The club meets for demonstrations on the first Thursday of each month at 7pm in DA02 at the College of Education, and for a free hands-on night at Cobham Intermediate every third Thursday of the month, also at 7pm. All are welcome; a \$3 door charge covers costs for the demonstration evenings.

International Jewellery Box Competition, Page 2.

Undercover at Cobham Hands-on Night, 4 & 5.

Clubnight Reports & Photos, 6 - 7, 10 - 11.

International Round Hinge Ring Competition



Dinki Di's round jewellery box competition has begun, based in the Australian Wood Forum.

The Round Jewellery Box Competition, started on July 24, is being run by Dinki Di's 76, 85 or 100 mm chrome or gold plated hinge rings.

Entry is 1 (one) box only, per competitor. Any size ring or plating is allowed.

To keep the rules simple and easy in this friendly competition, any materials, either wood, acrylic and/or resin combinations, as well as any finish type, will be accepted.

To make it fair to all participants, photos of completed boxes are not allowed to be posted anywhere until

after the closing date however, a little 'teaser' is allowed on the main competition thread, so please be discreet.

At the competition's closing date 24/10/2013, a new thread will be opened for the participants to download a minimum of 4 photos of their box. Please submit photos of the box open, closed, top and bottom from which the winner will be selected.

There will be 10 boxes selected by the judging panel and, if necessary, some extra photos may be requested of any of the participants, to help select the winning box.

The judging panel will be kept confidential and the winning box maker will receive \$200 worth of hinged rings of his or her choice, + a

nice piece of PNG rose wood burl [also known as Amboyna] or a piece of nice Australian wood or burl of an approximate weight 4kg. Postage is free anywhere on the planet. The winner takes it all, so good luck to you all.

The hinge ring sizes/prices:

Dinki Di 76mm hinge ring \$10 + postage, gold and silver plated.

Dinki Di 85 mm hinge ring \$12 + postage, gold and silver plated.

Dinki Di 100mm hinge ring \$14 + postage gold and silver plated.

Distributors for the hinge rings are Guy and Diane at dinkidcreations@yahoo.com

Let's give this a shot, Christchurch woodturners. Can

Another Graduating Class Takes Wing

Club patron Soren Berger shared some entertaining anecdotes about travelling in the woodturning world. He's spent some time in the US' north woods lately, and enjoying some local eccentricities, such as turned moose droppings [as moose eat the turners' shavings, it's really recycled wood.]

It's great to see the course continues to produce more graduates, more than any other club in the country, and to recognise the un-tiring work of the tutors. Thanks also are due to Celia who organises these excellent evenings.



Photos by Ledua Brooks



Graduation pieces, clockwise from centre: Ian Conway, Keith Jenkin, John Matthieson Keith Dunlop, James Hsu, Joe Hayes



Cobham Hands-on Night:

Okay, hands up those of you who hardly ever go to the hands-on night at Cobham! Yep, that other club night, third Thursday of the month. Aha, thought so. Well keep reading and you'll find out why it might be worth going to one of these evenings.

The first thing to note about the Cobham Hands-on Night is to get there early, or at least before 7pm. That's if you want to park inside, and given that the evening is rush hour at the pool and gym across the road, this will save you a long walk.

This is the night that most club members rarely attend. It's aimed at dealing with whatever the club members bring along, whether it's a problem to solve, advice to help them along or show and tell and check this out. Compared to the first Thursday of the month, this is much more of a stand around and chat night, with feel of a whole bunch of you have all dropped in to your mate's shed for a bit of a chat and maybe some turning



while you're there.

That's what the early ones were doing, standing around having a yarn, when in walks Mick the arborist. In his arms is a big elm burr, and says he found us on the web, is just getting interested in turning himself and this is his introductory gift to us. Ian brought in a bit of tarata, or lemonwood, and as that goes through the bandsaw, we all admire its colour and smell. That's to be given away, and more in the car boot.

Pretty soon he's out sawing it up, pleasing the

neighbours with a bit of buzzing. Those less warmly clad have stayed inside, hopping into the strips of black walnut veneer that Pat has brought to distribute. Les fires up the bandsaw and tidies up one of the burrs that have been brought in.

Once the sawing is done and evidence blown away, there's more talk inside. "Who's got problems?" I stay quiet, assuming Rex means turning problems, though I'm sure there'd be some life counsel dished out if anyone asked for it.

It turns out tonight is quite a

a Fly on the Wall



timely night for Joe Hayes to mention he's thinking about buying a chainsaw, and wondering what to look for. So Mick the chainsaw consultant holds forth, with plenty of chipping in from the rest of the circle, and Joe comes away with his list: everyone else's chainsaw queries are also satisfactorily answered.

Mick, for his part, obviously hasn't found the right sort of

chisels, because they've been bending and breaking. Bruce sets him straight, and the rest of the mob. More talk, about seasoning timber to prevent cracking, and carving, with plenty of sound advice and experience shared. Plenty of knowledge sharing happens here.

The main discussion trickles down to little chats in pairs and small groups, about all sorts of things. By about 9 o'clock, time for a quick cleanup, and the drift for the door begins.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Rolly Munro at Timaru

The Timaru Woodturners Club has the great pleasure of hosting New Zealand and world-renowned woodturner/woodcarver & tool manufacturer **Rolly Munro** for the weekend **30th Nov & 1st Dec 2013**.

The event will take place at our clubrooms at the Phar Lap Raceway, Timaru. We are happy to invite other interested parties from clubs around the South Island, if you are interested in joining us at this year's club highlight you are most welcome.

Demonstrations for both days are from 9am to 4pm, at a cost of **\$30** per day or **\$50** for both days, with morning/afternoon teas plus a light lunch provided, if you require a billet please advise with your registration. Rolly will have many of his tools available to purchase at this event.

To book a place for this great weekend we require notification/registration for this event before Show Day, November 15.

Bookings are required. Contact club secretary John Cookson: johncookson56@gmail.com or phone 03 615 8880, or Don Colville don.mc@clear.net.nz or 03 6860310.

August Club Night: Les Brindley

The second club night in our new venue saw Les Brindley spinning metal, something he hasn't done for 20 years or so. He made a pretty good job of it when that is considered.

Apparently fewer and fewer people are doing it these days, as well – he remembers more than a dozen metal spinners back when he was doing it, but said you'd be lucky to find one or two now. Without many locals doing it, the web is the place for inspiration, and on youtube experts spin a perfect 300mm nose cone for a propeller out of 4mm aluminum in just three minutes. "But don't raise your expectations," said Les.



Les outlined some intricacies of the spinning art. Formers were used fitted to a chuck and a flat piece of metal friction fitted between that and the tailstock. When spinning, the metal is stretched and on occasions can be separated, or split. While spinning, the metal can be moved in either direction by a round-nosed tool similar to a blunt bowl gouge. The gouge is levered around a fulcrum pin, which is moveable, located in the toolrest in the direction to suit the former.

The formers are usually made

from wood, but those that will be used repeatedly or are needed for a piece with a high quality finish are covered with a metal skin. This is done to mitigate blemishes in the wood and the grain.

To keep the cutting edge from getting involved he used the chisel well back from the shoulder and pushed it down low. That's all metal spinning is, says Les: pushing the metal and stretching it, then pushing it back the other way.

It's a noisy, dirty job. With the metal plate located against the

Spinning Metal



former and tailstock sulphide grease is applied to the plate to assist in providing a frictionless surface. And while a few hearing aids were switched off early in the evening, nobody was coughing from dust.

The first few seconds are when the metal moves the most, as Les used a roughing gouge to give it the overall shape and then massage the ripples out of it and work on the edges. A broomstick was good backup for the chisel. His chisel was hard but not hardened; steel tools work for copper, aluminium and brass, but if you turn steel, you need bronze tools.

The gouge is placed against the fulcrum and a lever action is used on the plate to stretch it around the former. This levering action, sliding up and

down the metal, puts the metal into a plastic state allowing it to stretch and form to the shape required. Continual greasing provide a friction-less surface for the gouge to create the malleable plastic state of the metal. Once you have the desired shape matching your former a "tool steel" parting tool is used to tidy the edges and a flat-faced tool is used to polish up the metal. This was the least acoustically pleasing part of the demonstration. Les showed a finishing tool to get the ripples out and a texturing tool he'd made that day for use on metal.

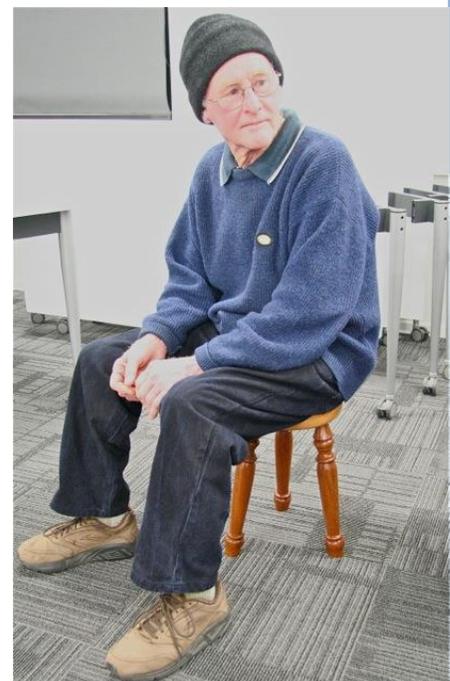
Les created a small aluminium cup with a 20mm flanged edge and also demonstrated using stainless steel and copper plate. Copper is more plastic than other metals, it gets

harder as it is worked, but it needs to be annealed before use. EEE wax can be used to polish the surface of copper items.

Safety equipment is a must when metal spinning particularly when cutting as small metal fragments fly off the work.

Les completed his evening demonstration by turning a "doggy dish" over a wooden

former which had a metal casing overlaid. As stated
Clockwise from lower left; a copper bowl takes shape; Les spinning aluminium; note how the chisel is just a pushing tool; another healthy show table; Reg Kidd on his winning stool.



Ten Questions for Michele Fitzgerald

What have you just finished turning, and what is your next or current project?

This eggcup and its egg; it's actually a renovation of my first rolling pin, which I didn't want hanging around, so I gave it a new identity.

Favourite wood/s?

They're all pretty cool, I take what I get given, but native timbers are pretty special.

How long have you been turning, and what got you started?

Just a few months – Rex caught Liz and I at Papanui High night school, and we had a go and got the bug straight away.

Have you had any training?

Now we're doing the course – we've done two sessions and I'm loving how much we're learning, and how quickly we're improving, and how generous everyone is with wood, help and advice.

What's something you've turned with which you are



very pleased, or most proud?

One of the projects I made at night school was a natural-edged bowl – quite a thick rim on it, and I was extra chuffed when someone said they can be tricky.

Do you often have several projects on the go at once, or do you generally finish what you start before you start another project?

Definitely one at a time for me at this stage. One project is enough.

How do you plan what you turn? That is, with detailed diagrams, or letting it flow

and evolve?

Er, things just flow, but don't read into that any kind of masterful creative process. In fact, things just kind of happen and I often make do with what I can still make, having taken too much off.

What does your partner think of your turning?

He's very supportive and encouraging, which is great. He likes everything I turn a lot more than I do, usually.

What else do you like to do with your time as well as turning?

I like to cycle, recreationally and for transport.

Has your working life lent itself to turning, or was it a nice point of difference?

I'm a massage therapist, having been an office bunny, it's nice to do some creative hobby where touch is still important. I think massage has a wee connection in that it's still a tactile thing that I'm doing. I'm big on touching the wood – any

Monthly Showtable Rules

There will be a new trophy awarded annually in December to the person accumulating the most points for the monthly competitions over the course of the calendar year.

Each entry shall be an item completed in the last three months, except for the December meeting when it shall be an item completed in the current calendar year. No piece may be entered at more than one meeting

except that it may be entered again at the December meeting.

Points will be awarded as follows each month:

1 point for entering one or more pieces that month;

Plus 3 points for first, 2 points for second and 1 point for third.

Judging shall be by the votes of those present at the meeting.

Double points are awarded

for the AGM night and the December meeting.

Since the July club night, each showtable has been quite spectacular. In three months, points have been accumulated by Robin Blowers, Rick Bolch, Les Brindley, Peter Clemett, Michele Fitzgerald, Keith Hake, Bruce Irvine, Celia Irvine, Pat Jordan, Reg Kidd, Liz McIntosh, Rex Marshall, Don Morgan, Bill Parsons, Don Reeves, Peter White, and



Wigstands in Demand: 2013 Jim Dunford Trophy

This year we will be awarding the Jim Dunford Trophy for the best wigstand. The Cancer Society has confirmed that there is definitely a shortage of wigstands.

Another good reason for this project this year: a couple of our club members have succumbed to cancer lately. So let's get busy! The South Auckland Woodturners' Guild has guidance for making wigstands on its project page – their website is www.sawg.org.nz. Or be creative and design your own. It's recommended that we end the shortage by making more than one each.

Jack Jordan's Stunning Walking Sticks:



Rather than a demonstration, September's club night was more of an intimate 'show and tell session' as one of the club's outstanding craftsmen passed his handiwork around and those present basked in the sharing of his secrets.

Jack Jordan combines his skill and experience as a turner and carver to produce walking sticks, but it was not always so. He explained how he came to be making sticks: breaking both legs and an ankle from a fall while trimming a tree. Laid up for considerable time, Jack knew he would need a cane. And being a woodworker, he

made his first one himself.

In due course he wanted to improve on his basic hand-piece so he decided to start carving to enhance the handles of his sticks. Leg problems persisted, and with time on his hands, Jack carved more sticks.

As well as the elegantly carved sticks shown above, there were also longer staves, a turned barley twist with a knot carved at the centre of the stick. Jack explained how he made his barley twist and incorporated the knot. He has made a staff for his

daughter with a spider carved in the top of it, and another with a claw and ball.

Jack told us an easy and quick way to mark out and cut the twists with a tenon saw. He has also developed a set of three spanners using the different sizes to gauge the sizing of the taper for future sticks, although each stick is a different length.

Jack reflected a little on the history of such sticks, noting that sticks transcend time and culture: manufactured walk-ing sticks were found in the tomb of Tutenkhamun from the 12th Century B.C.

September Club Night



Jack draws inspiration from Michelangelo, 17th Century Dutchman Grinling Gibbons and contemporary Brit David Easterly. Jack likes that all three of these artists attempted the impossible and succeeded. He encouraged us to each try

something different, difficult, perhaps even impossible.

After Jack, Pat Jordan showed slides from a weekend turners' retreat in Sheffield, England. Here the sticks by craftsman named Hickman had birds and animals for his handpieces,

using solely rhododendron, which we consider a weed here.

Pat showed photos of segmented turning done in Sheffield: the difference being that the segments/pieces were glued longitudinally not stacked as is the method often seen here in NZ.



Clockwise from left: Robin and Peter, the usual showtable suspects; a selection of sticks - boot, gargoyle, knot, octopus, whale, dragon and dragon's head; Jack with one he didn't make himself; another splendid showtable; time for inspection and testing, as each stick/staff is passed around for handling.

Waitaki Woodworkers' Guild Spinaround 2013 November 1 - 3



A wonderful weekend of woodturning, fellowship, learning & sharing, raffles, good food, good company & good fun.

Neil Scobie from Australia is guest turner. For the partners: TBA

Register NOW and book your accommodation: Armada Motor Inn has a discount at if you mention WWG [0800 626 278].

Bill Owen's turning supplies & Tim Skinner's Capital Books will be there.

Contact Ken Newton: knnewton@xtra.co.nz or 03 438 7741

Club Night Schedule: the Remainder of 2013

The Showtable is operating on the new system, showing your best work of the past three months.

Remember the venue is no longer the Lecture Theatre but Room DA02, across the carpark. Turn left instead of right as you enter the College of Ed off Dovedale Avenue, and it's the new block.

October 3: Making Music – big [10' alpenhorn] to small [duck calls and whistles], including recitals.

November 7: Carving with Bill Parsons – putting lettering on platters, using cabinetmaking chisels.

December 5: Several Christmas decorations demonstrated, at the Brake Street Church Hall.

President's Page

I recently found myself pondering why it is that I turn wood, and what is it about the craft that motivates me. Of course, I enjoy working with my hands; I like the warmth and appearance of wood; and take pleasure in the production of good form and finish. However, I've also come to realise that one of the more inspiring things for me is to be able to apply my skills to the benefit of other people, and particularly where the end-product is both useful and appreciated. That's why I'm particularly enthused by our Club's latest "project".

In recent years, at our Christmas meeting, the Club has encouraged members to contribute a themed item to be donated to a worthy cause. The theme last year was small bowls (later filled with sweets), and the year before that was children's toys. This year we are asking for wig stands, to be gifted through the Cancer Society to patients undergoing

chemotherapy, and we're hoping for a really good turnout of pieces.

With the incidence of cancer as high as it is, wig stands are in frequent and regular demand, and always gratefully received. And, of course, they are required throughout the year, not just at Christmas. Because of this we also want to encourage anyone with a bit of spare time to make an additional stand or two whenever they can. We'll collect the completed pieces and arrange to present them at regular intervals to the Cancer Society. They actually prefer to receive them in small batches due to having limited storage space in their new premises.

Noel Graham has prepared a large number of kits that contain all the wood needed. These kits are available for club members to take and complete. You will need to turn the individual components, assemble the stands, and apply a suitable finish. The choice of design or

embellishment is entirely up to you - perhaps taking inspiration from one of the many examples on the web, or producing something of your own design. If you are unsure about form, or even how to get started, there are some good instructions on the project pages of the South Auckland club website.

When completing your wig stand, there are a few things to remember:

- The wig stands will generally be "on display" on a bedroom dresser or similar. The style, form, decoration, and finish should be sympathetic to this environment.
- Use a drying or hard-curing finish. This provides good resistance to finger marking and eases dusting, but more importantly ensures oils or waxes don't transfer onto the wig.
- Sign your work. Recipients occasionally like to express their thanks to the turner, and having your full name legible on the piece will ensure it is possible to do so.

I hope you are as motivated by this as I am, and I look forward to a great response.

Happy turning everyone.

Dabbling Derek: the Upton Shed





Clockwise from below: the 2m propeller wall decoration – every home should have one; the motorcycles, younger one in front; the lathe in its coop; some of Derek's turning, including a possum egg, plus a centuries-old glass bottle base from his amateur archaeological days.



For the Calendar

NOVEMBER 1 – 3: Waitaki Spinaround Weekend, see page 12 for all details.

NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 1: Rolly Munro is at Timaru for the weekend, see page 5.

DECEMBER 5: Our end of year Christmas breakup: bring a plate, partner and 2013's best work, for light refreshments, entertainment, and the end of year awards.

OCTOBER 2 – 5, ~~2014~~: South Auckland Woodturners' Guild are planning a symposium every bit as good as last year's. Prices

and bookings from March 2014.

For Sale

For a DVR XP lathe, see Noel. He also has a drillpress with a vice; a Triton work bench with a router table and router; and a big noisy dust extractor that has been well-used.

Murray Bugler is selling a Teknatool TL1000 lathe. Call him on 352 9551, he's in Northwood.

Sawyers Moved

Don't waste your petrol driving around town – KASS Sharpening Services has

moved to 419 St Asaph St. Phone 379 9997.

Men's Shed

Rex Marshall is spending every Tuesday afternoon, from 1pm, at the Aldred Men's Shed, located at the corner of Nancy Ave and Knowles St in St Albans; a gold coin is required for entry.

Vacancy: Editor

The current newsletter editor is returning to his homeland to be closer to family, after 15 years away from the gum trees. He's keen to hand on the

2012/13 Committee Contact Details

Patron: Soren Berger, 25 Rodney St, New Brighton; 388 1004.

President: Peter Clemett: 36a Fenhall St, Russley; 342 5242.

Vice President: Rick Bolch: 28 Waiau St, Hoon Hay; 980 5156.

Treasurer: Bill Parsons, 76 Fendalton Rd, Fendalton; 351 5647.

Secretary: Bruce Irvine, 401 Withells Rd, Avonhead; 358 8482.

Newsletter: Danny Brooks, 2/104 Blighs Rd, Bryndwr; 0211 376 003.

Noel Graham: 63 Oakley Cres, Hornby; 349 8976.

Celia Irvine: 401 Withells Rd, Avonhead; 358 8482.

Pat Jordan, 39 McBeath Ave, Hoon Hay; 942 4279.

Rex Marshall: 396 Greers Rd, Bishopdale; 352 9297.

Ray Morgan: 154b Brookside Rd, Rolleston; 366 9795.

John Scott: 26 Carston St, Leeston; 324 8340.

Mike Wing: 7 Donovan Pl, Halswell; 741 1475.