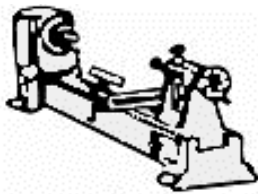


# SPLINTERS

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NEWSLETTER of the Christchurch Woodturners Assn. for June-July 2011



*Christchurch  
Woodturners  
Association Inc.*



## *Coming meetings*

We usually meet on the **FIRST** Thursday in the month at 7pm. The usual meeting room in the former College of Education, now part of the University of Canterbury, Dovedale Avenue, is likely to be unavailable for some time to come. The June and July meetings will be held in the Methodist Church Hall in Brake St, Church Corner.

**June:** This will be our AGM followed by a demonstration by our patron, Soren Berger.

**July:** The demonstrator will be Dick Veitch of the South Auckland Woodturning Group.

## *Show table*

The topics for the next three meetings will be:

**June:** A bud vase (aka a weed pot). You have all made these, so let's try for a record number of entries

**July:** A piece featuring a sphere or ball or an element of spherical shape as part of the design.

**August:** A candle holder, either traditional or a tee-light. However if it is a tee-light, it must have some form of insert to insulate the candle from the wood. Relying on the aluminium holder which comes with the candle is not acceptable for safety reasons. Glass inserts are available from Bill Owen, 49 Severn St, Oamaru 9400. Phone 03-434 6261. Email: [owenturningsupplies@xtra.co.nz](mailto:owenturningsupplies@xtra.co.nz)

There is also a "Hands On" meeting in the Technology Room at Cobham Intermediate, Ilam Road, on the **THIRD** Thursday of the month at 7pm. The Aoraki Polytech courses are also back underway at Cobham Intermediate.

### **AGM of the Christchurch Woodturners Association**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Christchurch Woodturners Association will be held at 7.30 pm on Thursday 2 June 2011. The venue is now confirmed to be the Methodist Church Hall on Brake St, Upper Riccarton.

#### **Agenda**

Present:

Apologies:

Minutes from the previous AGM:

Matters arising from those minutes

Reports:

President

Financial

Election of officers and committee:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Committee

Notices of motion (if any received):

General business:

After the AGM there will be a demonstration by our patron, Soren Berger.

#### **Call for:**

1. Notices of motion in writing and seconded were to be in the hands of the Secretary no later than Thursday May 19<sup>th</sup>.
2. Nominations for office bearers and committee as listed in the agenda are to be in writing and seconded. They are also to include a statement by the person that they agree to being nominated. If there are no nominations for any position, then there will be a call for nominations from the floor of the AGM for that position.

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**Disclaimer:** The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the Christchurch Woodturners Association or its committee.

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Have you checked out our web-site lately? It seems to have got a little stuck.

[www.woodturning.org.nz](http://www.woodturning.org.nz)

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# Presidents Annual Report of the Christchurch Woodturners Association

2010/2011

Hello to you all,

Being President of our Association for the past two years has been for me a joyous learning experience. I have been overwhelmed by the support given to me by you, the members. There have been challenges but these are to be expected in any organisation and collectively we have overcome them.

My special thanks must go to your committee for the loyalty, guidance and support they have extended to me over the past two years. To Bruce for the secretarial duties and Mike for safely guarding our finances.

We remained supportive to each other and the wider community in time of crisis during the recent earthquakes, having to cancel a club meeting, relocating and some of us losing valued possessions. These things pale into insignificance when we consider the loss of friends due to the tragedy or who have passed away during the past year.

During the past year we had some fantastic demonstrators, Keith McFadden and his "Ornamental Jig", Judy Harrington doing the Pyrography and all the others. We had the Inaugural Jim Dunford Memorial Trophy, won by Mike Wing with a beautifully turned Yew Wig stand. The turning of the wig stands was an excellent idea for the competition; it also provided something to those suffering from Cancer as all the entries were donated to the Cancer Society.

There were many achievements throughout the year not all can be mentioned here but a couple are Robin Cheng taking out the "People's Choice" with one of his turned hats at the Australian Symposium in Brisbane and Mia and John Ryan's effort to establish Woodturning for the disabled people of Hoi An in Vietnam. Again, a big thank you to the members who responded to John with so much support.

Many members attended woodturning gatherings throughout the South Island at Edenvue Southland, Timaru, Oamaru, Waiora, and Hari Hari, all coming back home with enjoyable experiences.

The Aoraki course continued with the momentum of previous years and again I thank Bruce, Noel and Rex for their stewardship of these courses. We had an extension to the Aoraki course for those who have completed it by way of a two-day course on Embellishment. This was well received by the 28 members who attended.

We had new members join our association; we were in attendance at the Avic Hill Craft Festival and also the Garden Gala at Riccarton house.

A special mention and thanks to Mike Foster for his contribution as Treasurer. Unfortunately Mike's resignation had to be accepted due to his work commitments overseas.

My thanks go to Ian and Celia for stepping in and looking after the Treasurer's role for the remainder of this year.

The association is financially secure and was well managed in spite of the recent earthquakes during the past year.

My thanks to you all and I ask that you all support the incoming Chairperson and committee just as you have done over the past years.

Ray Morgan  
President  
Christchurch Woodturners Association



Rex Marshall's pewter-inlaid box      Les Brindley turns brass on a wood lathe in April

### **Editorial**

Well it's AGM time again - time for the committee to reflect on another year's work well done on behalf of the members. And time for all members to reflect on how they might get more involved in the running of their club. As always, we could do with the fresh insights and energies of some new committee members for the coming year.

We could use a new editor for the newsletter too, as I am ready for a break from this particular task after doing it for about 3 years. If you can use a word processor, then you may be the one for the job. Assistance and guidance is always available if needed. Have a word with Ray, Bruce or me if you think that you may like to take this on.

I have very recently joined the ranks of the retired and am waiting to find all the extra turning time that should follow. This week I have visited some members to collect pieces for the club table at the Fun-Day competition. It has been great to have had the time for a chat and a look at their workshops, without having to immediately rush on. Thanks to all those members who have volunteered to lend one of their treasured creations for the club display. I hope that your work leads to a great result for the club, it is high time we stopped punching below our weight in this event.

I would like to acknowledge the sterling work done by Tom Dodd in compiling reports of the meetings. Your efforts have been much appreciated Tom.

Pat Jordan, newsletter editor

**Congratulations** are due to Rex Marshall for his outstanding result of second place in the lidded box section at the Auckland Easter Show. See the photo elsewhere in the newsletter. This was a brilliant result for a first-time entrant in this prestigious competition and coming in ahead of such seasoned campaigners as Terry Scott and Dick Veitch shows how highly-regarded Rex's piece was. Hopefully this will convince us that there is plenty of creative talent in Christchurch and lead to more members joining Rex in entering next year. Start planning now!

### **Meeting Report, 7 April, 2011**

**Tonight's Demonstrator** was Les Brindley, who showed us techniques which can be used to turn non-wood -- brass, steel, aluminium and plastics (PTFE and Perspex) --on a wood-lathe.

He began with a piece of extruded brass bar about 35 mm diameter, mounted in the lathe chuck, to make a knob for a cupboard door. He started on the "door" side of the knob. He shaped the knob roughly, using a 6mm square high speed steel bit, held in a tool-holder, much as for wood-turning. The tool was used as a scraper, cutting at centre height with the lathe t a slow speed. He changed over briefly to using a tungsten carbide bit to show its use.

The next step was to centre-drill the end of the bar, with a centring drill mounted in a Jacobs chuck in the tailstock. A hole was to be formed in the end of the bar and threaded internally to take an M5 fixing bolt. The M5 thread has a pitch of 0.8 mm, so the drill to start the thread must be  $5 - 0.8 = 4.2$  mm diameter. Therefore a hole this size was drilled to about 15 mm depth, and the hole was tapped using the intermediate tap, fixed first in the tailstock chuck (*with the lathe turned by hand*). When the tap had started, the tapping was continued with the tap held in a hand-held tapping chuck. Tapping the hole was completed using a plug tap, to make the thread continue to the full depth of the hole.

When Les was satisfied with the rough shape of the knob, he smoothed it with a flat single-cut file. He pointed out that for filing brass, files which had been used on steel were no longer sharp enough -- files used for brass should be used exclusively on brass. He also recommended using the file left-handed, so it was not possible for the clothing to get caught on the lathe's moving parts. (Likewise, any jewellery on wrists or fingers should be removed (or taped over) to prevent catching.) The file *must* have a handle for safety. For a good surface finish, he advised not to use sandpaper, but to use emery cloth, grade #320 up to #600. Use only a short length for safety, as the cloth is very strong. Lastly he cut the knob away from the bar stock with a coping saw.

For the final stage, he put the Jacobs chuck in the lathe chuck with the intermediate tap held in it. The knob was firmly screwed on to the tap, and the round end was finished off using a file, then emery cloth.

Les stressed that brass is a short-chip material, so good eye protection is essential and should be used when turning any metal.

Next, Les showed how to turn mild steel. He fixed a piece of 15 mm diameter mild steel bar in the chuck, and showed how to turn it using a tungsten carbide tool in scraper mode. The tool tip had to be at, or just below the centreline height, and the lathe speed had to be such that the cutting speed was not more than 30 metres per minute. Even so, the work-piece got very warm. A cutting fluid or triple-E can be used to lubricate the cutting tool.

For the third example, Les turned a piece of PTFE plastic, mounting it between the chuck and a live centre. PTFE can be worked like wood, but with precautions, because the turnings wrap themselves around the work, which can become dangerous.

Next, Les turned a piece of Perspex rod about 15 mm diameter. This requires a higher lathe speed, but is simple to turn, remembering that these turnings also tend to wrap themselves around the work. Perspex is an acrylic and is prone to chipping out.

For his final example, Les had a sand-cast aluminium faceplate which had been rough-turned and threaded internally to take a steel adaptor bush to suit the headstock thread on the lathe. With the faceplate screwed on to the lathe mandrel, he was able to turn off the high spots using a carbide tool, working from the centre outwards, then back to the centre. The outer edge also required trimming, and the corners chamfered. Lastly, he scribed two concentric rings on the outer face. The faceplate should be trued on the machine on which it will be used. Wrought aluminium has an affinity to most other metals and tends to weld itself to cutting tools. Keep it moist or lubricate with soluble oil or turps. Kerosene also works but leads to rust on the lathe bed.

**Tonight's Showpiece** was to be a lidded box, and the winner was Rex Marshall, who had decorated his box with pewter inlays.

### **Meeting Report, 5 May, 2011**

Pat Jordan was in the chair in the absence of the President.

In **Show and Tell**, a member showed two table-tops one square, one round, about 600 mm across, which he offered to members.

Bruce Irvine called for interest in participating in the inter-club Fun Day coming up in Timaru.

Bruce also drew members' attention to the AGM, which will be held at the next meeting, and the need for members to come forward for election as office-bearers or committee members.

Pat Jordan showed members several pieces of wood he had for sale on behalf of a deceased estate.

Bruce Irvine advised that he had woodworking machinery and woodworking tools available for sale, from a workshop that is being closed down.

**The first Demonstrator tonight** was **Bruce Irvine**, who showed how he turns spheres. He showed first a jig which he can set up on the lathe bed, which guides a scraper at centre-line height in a circular arc, which trims the outer surface to spherical. He showed a lawn bowl he had made, about 170 mm diameter, and some balls about 40 mm dia for Science Alive. Painted in different colours to represent different sorts of atoms, they can be assembled to build "molecules". He had several balls about 35 diameter for "pretend" ice hockey, and poi holders about 25 diameter.

Bruce also showed how he had made a hollow sphere about 140 mm diameter with open bottom, as the housing for a hi-fi speaker. He also had a spare ball foot from a set of four he had made to repair a damaged antique table.

He demonstrated how he makes the 40 mm diameter balls for atomic models for Science Alive. He started with a piece of Jarrah 50 mm square x 100 long. He mounted it between centres and reduced it to a rough cylinder, then used a calliper and parting tool to size it accurately, and finished it to 40 diameter. He faced the end square and marked off a 40 mm length, roughly rounded the outer end, parted part-way down the inner end and roughly rounded that before sawing it off.

Now he put a steel jig into the chuck jaws. This jig was a thin cylinder about 35 mm inside diameter x about 20 long. On the outside it was about 40 diameter except for a collar 45 mm diameter and 3mm long near the centre. At one end it was chamfered for about 5 mm to a sharp edge 35 mm diameter. A longitudinal slot about 3 mm wide had been cut through it. This jig sat in the chuck jaws with the collar against the face of the jaws, and the slot aligned between any two jaws.

When any aspect of the roughly-turned ball was pressed against the sharp edge of this jig and the chuck tightened, the jig gripped the ball so that about 2/3 of its surface could be worked. Final rounding was done with a cylindrical steel tube arbour 25 mm inside diameter, which had one end cut square and ground flat. Placed anywhere on the surface of the rotating ball, it would lie on an aspherical surface. By moving the tube radially as the ball rotated at speed, the ball was finish-shaped.

The second demonstrator was **Graham Trost**, a retired manual training school-teacher. The main part of his talk was on Pyrographic burners, (Pokerwork burners), which he used in his school classes. One of the most troublesome aspects of this work was the ability of the hot wire to burn through the insulation of the electric leads. (Accidentally on purpose?). He found that the ideal solution to this problem was to wrap the leads with fibre-glass.

He showed different pokerwork equipment, including a base unit which had provision for up to seven hand-pieces. He also discussed ways of attaching the nicrome wire burner tips to the hand-pieces.

Finally he showed samples of his pyrography art, including postcards made of thin plywood, which he had made and decorated.

Graham belongs to the International Wood Collectors' Society, or I.W.C.S. He described the work and functions of the Society, and showed us a selection of the (standard-sized) wood specimens that go to make a member's collection. They are 150 x 75 x 12 mm.

The Society has been going in New Zealand for about 25 years. N.Z. members include Bob Lynn of Ashburton. It is active in Australia, where they meet bi-monthly. There is a regular magazine, called World of Wood.

The next Australia-New Zealand Conference is to be held in Christchurch in November this year. Graham is the organiser and would welcome any offers of help.

**Showpiece** Tonight's Showpiece was to have been something non-wood which had been turned on a wood-lathe. The joint winners were Pat Jordan with a pewter-inlaid lidded box and Ewan Allison with a ball-point pen made of Corion.

(Thanks to Tom Dodd for the meeting reports).

## Recent events

**Inter-club Fun Day at Timaru, Saturday 21 May**

## Coming events

The **Learn to Turn weekend at Harihari** has been re-scheduled for mid-July this year. Ask Bruce Irvine if you would like a registration form. The guest demonstrator will be the popular Robbie Graham. Early booking of accommodation is essential.

**Spin-Around Waitaki** Will again be held at the usual time at the end of October/ beginning of November.

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## **YOUR COMMITTEE**

<i>Club Patron</i>	Soren Berger, 25 Rodney Street, New Brighton	388 1004
<i>President</i>	Ray Morgan, 154b Brookside Road, Rolleston 7164, email: <a href="mailto:yvonneray@xtra.co.nz">yvonneray@xtra.co.nz</a>	3669795
<i>Vice-President</i>	Pat Jordan, 39 McBeath Avenue, Hoon Hay, Chch 8025	942 4279
<i>Secretary</i>	Bruce Irvine, 401 Withells Road, Avonhead	358 8482
<i>Interim Treasurer</i>	Ian Conway, 56 Briarmont St, Avondale, Chch 8061	338 4101

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## **Committee**

<b>Les Brindley</b>	<b>51 Charles Upham Drive, Hillmorton</b>	<b>338 2216</b>
<b>Mike Foster</b>	<b>795 East Maddisons Rd, Rolleston</b>	<b>347 2494</b>
<b>Noel Graham</b>	<b>63 Oakley Crescent, Hornby</b>	<b>349 8976</b>
<b>Celia Irvine</b>	<b>401 Withells Road, Avonhead</b>	<b>358 8482</b>
<b>Rex Marshall</b>	<b>396 Greers Road, Bishopdale</b>	<b>352 9297</b>
<b>Brian Syder</b>	<b>37 Brockham Street, Casebrook</b>	<b>359 9545</b>

Newsletter editor: Pat Jordan, email: [pjordan@paradise.net.nz](mailto:pjordan@paradise.net.nz)

## **Machinery etc available**

1. Nova 3000 lathe in good order. On its own wooden stand \$950



2. Bandsaw, Holytek, 14 inch with cast-iron table \$400

3. Air compressor and some air tools

4. One unopened 18 kg drum of Mobilcer-M \$90

Contact Pat Jordan phone 9424279

AVAILABLE PROJECT COMPONENTS  
Standard - Twist - Ball Point Pen Kits  
Pepper Mill mechanisms.  
Contact the Association Secretary  
Ph 358 - 8482  
Email [bruce.irvine@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bruce.irvine@xtra.co.nz)