

TURNOUT

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NORTHERN TURNERS INC.



Presidents View May 2016

Northern Turners has been proudly represented at the Crafts & Stitches over 3 days, May 5-7th. More than 300 items from 17 members, an AV display, live demonstrations new table coverings and lathe screens generated considerable sales of around \$4800. Many thanks to our exhibition committee for the professional staging and management of these events, especially, Graham Reed, Ron Allen, Bill Elliot, Tony Davies, Paul Beebee and Greg Jackson.

Week 3 saw fine stemmed goblets demonstrated by Ron Allen. Ron provided great insight and tips into turning green timbers with impressive results balanced against amazing fragility. Thanks again Ron for another comprehensive and professional demonstration.

Week 4 Northern Turners members participated in 'Australia's Biggest Morning Tea' with cakes, sausage rolls, biscuits, soups and an auction. This is a very successful, enjoyable annual event raising this year, \$970 for the Cancer Foundation. Thanks to Jan Beare for organizing and convening the event, Tim Smeaton for conducting the auction, Anne for heartfelt words and timely reminder to access the Bowel Cancer Test Kits and all members that provided goods/food.



The Biggest Morning Tea was accompanied by a demonstration of a **Pattern Mill** with slides of items made on the mill and a working operation of the actual Pattern Mill, which Woodfast Machinery are planning to release in the future. The Pattern Mill appeared incredibly easy to use, as a 'stand alone' machine, employing the scroll chuck from your own lathe to mount your work. It was very accessible and easy to setup where spectacular results are only limited by your imagination and ingenuity, rather than complicated mathematics. Thanks to Woodfast Machinery Company especially Bronte Edwards (demonstrator), Graham Dowling & Steve Johnson (owners) for the demonstration and access to all the goods they bought with them for sale and the donation of



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Northern Turners Committee

President	Lindsay Winen
Secretary / Correspondence	Dale Starr
Treasurer	Robert Edge
Vice President	Jan Beare
Member	Bill Elliot
Member	Glenn Kutchen
Member	Fred McCann
Member	Jake Jacobs

Send all articles to

turnout@woodgroupsa.org.au

Your Northern Turners

- Seeking Excellence
- Encouraging Individualism
- Fostering Creativity
- Teaching Skills
- Providing Support

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items to our Biggest Morning Tea Auction table.

Community Grant: Northern Turners has successfully applied to Tea Tree Gully Council for a grant of a \$2940 (Community Equipment Grant) for the purchase of 2 Woodfast Variable speed midi Lathes with scroll chucks. These lathes will be primarily dedicated to our induction program and also for use at demonstrations. It will be a great upgrade to our exhibitions to use new equipment surrounded by our new screens.

'Show and Tell' table on both the 3rd and 4th Saturday displayed great diversity again. The *Halo* for the month, presented by Mick Adley, was awarded to Bob Bauze for his burl bowls,



John Girdler Legacy: As part of John's legacy (goods & cash to the value of \$5314) Northern Turners has purchased a set of Woodfast lathe turning tools and a Robert Sorby Proedge Deluxe Sharpener and jigs. The sharpener will shortly become accessible to club members for use at the meetings (Tim Skilton has volunteered to provide some training in the use of this equipment in the future). There are now two complete lathe turning tool sets to support our induction program. The John Girdler funds have been set aside to support equipment purchases, identified by the club. Again, our gratitude to John's family for facilitating this legacy.

It is a packed month ahead with week 2 access, week 3 Lace Bobbins and week 4, St John's First Aid presentation 'Safety in the Workshop' and Mick Adley Lathe Maintenance, as well as ongoing preparation for the Building & Home Improvement Show (July 17-19). I urge all members to 'give it a go' and submit some pieces for the Home Show in July. It really is an excellent venue to display your work and make some sales.

Many members have reflected on how much fun the Competition 'Mission Impossible' was and I encourage all members to engage in our programs. I have included the image of our winning team with the joy of their successful win on April 23rd.



Lindsay Winen

President Northern Turners.

My Turning Journey.—Jake Jacobs

My woodturning journey starts a few years before I touched a lathe or even started messing with wood. I was out on a typical training ride on my bike, when unfortunately I was hit by a car. I received some severe injuries, some obvious some a lot harder to see. After a few years of recovery, rehabilitation and a lot of time hiding in the house, my beautiful wife felt I needed to move on. She thought I should get out of the house and be around people. She suggested the Mens Shed at the Parks Community Centre where 8 guys got together and made stuff.

I started out making small children's toys for friends. Then I worked up to simple furniture for the house tv units etc. One day I was making some toy trucks for my son (to be born in 6 months). As I was making the wheels using a hole saw in Jarrah, a friendly gentleman came over and checked my toys and suggested there was another way to make the wheels. This gentleman was Roger Humphries, I am not sure if he remembers, but he was responsible for my first wood lathe experience. I started turning, or really just muddling around, on the lathe the best that I could. The first lathe experience was a schools Woodfast MC910. It was huge! The tools were Marples, but they coped, helping me to attack the timber. The timber was mainly jarrah posts as that's what I had and definitely not the easiest to work with.

I really enjoyed turning and discovered I was looking forward to every week. I had found a new passion. The next step was lessons at Macwood. I took 20 weeks of lessons with Rob Pridmore, and learned the basics and my way around the lathe. I also made a great friend in Bob Bauze who was also taking lessons. I felt I still wasn't getting enough turning in a week so the next step was to buy a lathe.

So, off to buy a lathe with little knowledge of what I needed. I entered Carbatec big eyed, but no real idea. A couple of grand later I had a Nova 1624 lathe, a chuck and some Hamlet tools. I was really pleased with I bought and in retrospect the only change would be variable speed. While at Carbatec I found a brochure for Woodgroupsa, and living in Stepney, the Northern Turners seemed like the logical choice.

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I rang Northern Turners and spoke to Ron Adams who gave me the low-down on where to go and what to bring. So, mega excited I turned up at my first 4th Saturday in October of 2009. It was busy and I was early. I watched the General Meeting and 'Show and Tell' and I was so excited to see what else could be turned, as I had only made beads, coves and bowls. There was no demo but they opened up the lathes to free turning.

I was so excited to get on the lathe, so I could show what I had learnt. I was surprised when only Roger was turning. Even though I was really nervous and started turning a Goblet out of Elm. I felt I was going really well, although by this stage no one had come to talk to me or offer me any advice. A couple of turners had walked up just to check out what I was turning. Then hollowing out the inside of the goblet: BANG! I had the biggest catch, it was loud, but to me it was almost deafening. The whole room went quiet. I picked up the pieces and didn't know where to go. I remember the friendly face of Ron Adams coming up to me and saying it happens to the best of us. Another member said there was more wood where that came from. I felt so much better and knew I was going to come back.

As I grew more confident as a wood turner, I made more friends at NTs & started putting pieces in 'Show and Tell' but the halo still eludes me, which makes me want to challenge myself even more.

I have attended some exciting events at Saturn, Merry month of May and TurnSA and I would highly recommend these for all members. They are great places to make new friends share, learn new turning tips and get lots of uninterrupted turning. I have taken part in some NT demos at Bunnings and the Home Show and enjoy raising the profile of the club. These events are great places to purchase great woods for turning.

As I had been at NT a few years and learnt much, I felt it was time to give a little back. At first I was involved with the Newsletter, writing articles and encouraging others to write pieces such as the Wood turner Review. I wanted to do more, so after speaking to a few of the senior members I decided to nominate and join the Northern Turners Committee at the AGM in 2014. I have been on the Committee for 2 years and feel the committees I have been involved in, have moved the club forward. I am very proud of our new club clothing as it makes us look very professional and united, especially at galleries and exhibitions.

In 2015, my 7th year at NTs I was looking for a new challenge. After a few discussions with some of members who regularly demonstrated, I decided to have a go. My first demo was on Pendants using the Ruth Niles Jig. It was typically a very busy 4th Saturday, the AGM, Woodfast selling and demonstrating and I was really nervous. Thanks to Tim Skilton and his great advice of telling a joke first, it started things off well. It wasn't the best Demo, but it gave the members the right idea. A few members said great demo, which felt terrific and encouraged me to do it again. Since then I have delivered 4 more demos and each one I believe has improved. I just need to remember to turn off my phone! I love turning and sharing what I know and really want to pursue my passion.

I have made some great friends and now I am experiencing more outside the Club. I have a weekly woodturning day at Lindsays, have joined a community shed at Uraidla and sell some of my produce in the local pub, galleries, craft fairs, community centre and through word of mouth. Recently I have received some commission work, pen making, a giant chess piece, beer tap pulls, spinning tops and the latest, Kokeshi dolls. My experience in demonstrating has provided the opportunity to be invited to demonstrate the basics to of wood turning in the Community Shed. Teaching is my ultimate aim but will require a lot more experience, knowledge, practise and demonstrations.

I would like to take this chance to thank those who have taken me under their wing: Tim Skilton, Bill Elliot, Lindsay Winen, Tony Davies and Ron Allen to mention a few. To Tim Smeaton thanks for all the lifts to meetings and events in the early days and thanks to all at the club.

If I could say anything to my fellow club members: Don't be afraid to get involved in NTs whether it be Newsletter, Committee, joining in exhibitions or delivering a demo, just give it a go.

My profile:

Age: 40

Born: Canberra

Live: Norton Summit

First Lathe: Teknatool Nova 1624

Dream Lathe: Vicmarc VL300

First Turning: Wheels for toys, but first real turning was a Blackwood pot pourri bowl

Favourite piece to turn: Lidded boxes

Favourite turned article: Red Gum Burl Bowl

Favourite Timber: Cypress pine as it cuts nicely, but my favourite timber is that perfect piece of Buloke

Worst Timber: Jarrah: the dust is a killer

Favourite Tool: My Woodcut 13mm Bowl Gouge

Occupation: Cleaner at the local Pub

NORTHERN TURNERS PROGRAMME

AT ALL MEETINGS, MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO GET ON WITH THEIR OWN ONGOING PROJECTS OR TRY OUT THINGS FROM THE DEMO – USE THE LATHES!

	<u>ACTIVITY / DEMONSTRATION</u>	<u>Demonstrator</u>	<u>Material needed.</u> You are encouraged to bring your own.
JUNE 11th	Come and work on your projects. Think of exhibition work.	Bill Elliot	Whatever you need for your project. Enthusiasm
JUNE 18th	Lace Bobbins	Roger Humphris	
JUNE 25th	Basic First Aid session (St Johns) and Lathe Maintenance		
JULY 9th	Come and work on your projects. Think of exhibition work.	Bill Elliot	Whatever you need for your project. Enthusiasm
JULY 16th	TBA	Ron Allen	
JULY 23rd	jewellery	TBA	
AUG 13th	Come and work on your projects. Think of exhibition work.	Bill Elliot	Whatever you need for your project. Enthusiasm
AUG 20th	TBA	Ron Allen	
AUG 27th	TBA		

The Latest Northern Turners Wood Collecting

It was very early when 8 Northern Turners began standing up on 27 April for a long long awaited road trip in search of the beautiful salicina, that is acacia salicina, hereafter called Broughton Willow. The date had been especially picked because the day had to be cool weather and before the beginning of May when planting was to begin and access would not be possible. The forecast confirmed the wisdom of the choice with a barmy 29 degrees predicted, maybe more in the open paddock. Just what this band of not so junior wood scavengers needed. So 4 cars with trailers met at the weighbridge after Pt Wakefield (bypassing the almost compulsory bakery stop) and following the farmers directions received earlier, arrived on the farm beside a marvellous shed. Lots of area, many tools and room to store so much wood if you could just clear up some space – just what we all needed in our back yards. But to the trees, mostly spindly stuff, up to about 400 in diameter along a small creek bank.

Then the chainsaws came out, various models and colours and sounds, from a rebuild, near museum Sthil (sorry Brian) to a 36Volt smooth, light,



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easy to use wonder to work with, electric jobbie that created the smallest, neatest chips you could ever wish for.

Trees came down, were lopped to length, loaded into trailers and it was lunch time. A quick review turned up very little blood, although there was a couple of scratches, so not a totally wound free activity. Unfortunately the weather was quite a bit cooler than predicted, cloud all the time and a brisk breeze that meant the cutters and loaders weren't able to enjoy rigerlets of sweat running down their foreheads as expected. The degree of disappointment about the lack of heat and sweat was actually nil.

It was also discovered that one of the members couldn't locate his hearing aid, a couple offered to lend theirs but most set off looking in the stubble and around the piles of trimmings to see if it's location was obvious enough to be spotted. After a while, it turned out to be real obvious and logical, it was in the owners pocket. He may never be allowed to forget this, or maybe he will.

And then, after a final conference with the farmer about how many trees were left, the possibility of rain, the flow of the creek and of course our thanks to him, we set off back down the highway with trailers loaded. Having missed the bakery stop on the way up, one car at least required a stop at Pt Wakefield on the way back, although he was going to Victor Harbour, so had more kms to travel than the rest of us. Not a very good excuse, but an excuse never the less.

Have found time to get 3 pieces through the lathe in the first 3 days. Here are 2 of them, now in plastic bags, drying out slowly, hopefully not cracking. The bark is quite loose in several spots and didn't cut well so it will probably be a natural edge, without bark, bowl.



The heart wood shines like polished ebony while turning. It is so wet. Thanks to Graham Reed for organising the trip and to everyone that came along. The initial contact with the farmer came during one of our exhibitions at Wayville. Another spinoff from these events.



End seal at night and interesting the sap between the bark and sapwood bleed a bright red overnight.

A great day cutting up wood and lots of good items to come in the future as the grain and colour variation between sap and heartwood is really great.

Greg Jackson

Stiches and Craft 2016 Exhibition and Demonstration.

Mid May so it was time for the annual 3 day Stiches and Craft Show at Wayville. We were provided with a large area, separated from others with high walls on 3 sides and completely open to the public on the front side. It was an Exhibition with several firsts. Graham Reed had conceived, constructed and painted foldup screens to go around the racking of 2 of the demonstration lathes to improve the “look” of that area, and they turned out to be fabulous, so thanks Graham.

Graham also did a bunch of work identifying a better covering for the display tables and they were used for the first time, on most tables. And another success, the tables looked the best they ever have with no creases in the tops and neat fitment over the legs. They certainly helped make the overall display better.

The high walls and layout enabled us to hang the large posters of iconic Australian trees that we haven't been able to display at Wayville before, also improving the appearance of the site.

And finally, the club TV was set up at the rear of the display to help attract passers by to come right in, and possibly buy something. The TV was displaying work done by club members s both images and video. We just need more of both from other club members for the future.

And to the work on display. 17 NT members entered more than 300 pieces . The public loved the work, judging from their comments and especially the 72 pieces that they bought, at an average price of \$58. Also several people expressed an interest in joining our club, which is the second benefit of holding these exhibitions.

There was bowls and platters, from lots of wood species, for many functions will all types of rims, there was candle holders, weed pots, pens, pendants, pepper grinders and a Vase or two. Some had been completely created on a lathe, while for others, the lathe work was just the beginning with much shaping done with other tools after the wood stopped spinning such as Henry Pamula's shapes with flames.

The lathe demonstrations attracted a number of lookers, but not as many as some previous shows. So Tony Davis's collection of newly created mushrooms grew throughout the day.

So a successful exhibition, good sales, good exposure of our clubs activities and some new features to help raise the standard of how we display our hobby and passion.

Greg Jackson

