

TURNOUT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NORTHERN TURNERS INC.

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From the President

With about 50 members present, we had a successful meeting on Saturday 24th, with demonstrations by Roger Humphris, Guido Guidi and Trevor Green, as described in Dale Starr's minutes below. I had never seen a pole lathe and drawing horse before, let alone in operation!

In the New Year, we should have a competition to make some of the wheels and other toy components, which would introduce members to the skills needed to make these components for Toymendous. As Roger pointed out, several NT members have made thousands of wheels in the past, but those members are getting older and new volunteers are badly needed.

Remember we have both a Special Meeting to change the Constitution and the AGM on October 22nd, when **we need a quorum**. A number of changes to the Constitution have been suggested in the document circulated by the Secretary, and the Special Meeting is to discuss these changes and vote on them. In particular, concerning 8.1.1, Ron Allen has put together a document which is published in Turnout, with ideas concerning a quorum, and Tim Skilton has provided me with some history of WoodgroupSA which suggests that the members should ratify any large expenditure, to ensure that a committee cannot commit a large sum to a particular venture which puts the club's funds at risk. Therefore, members are encouraged to think seriously about the changes to the Constitution before voting them in.

Concerning the AGM, Peter Smith has nominated for President, I am nominating for Vice President, and Dale Starr and David Kleinig have offered their services as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. All members of the committee are standing for election, but other members are welcome to nominate for any position.

To encourage attendance, the club is offering **free entry and a free sausage sizzle!!**

Several members have already offered their apologies, so if you can get there, please come. We need about 54 members to have a quorum, and if we do not achieve that, then we must have a second meeting in November to elect an executive. After the meetings, Dave Hough will demonstrate some of the skills and methods he uses to make his beautiful jewel boxes. In response to a member's request, Guido Guidi will also show how his jig is constructed to make tenons and mortices.

Hoping to see you at the AGM,

Keep on making great pieces, and good luck to all the exhibitors at Burnside – I hope they have excellent sales.

Tim Smeaton
President of NT

(Ron Allen's correspondence attached on Pg. 2)

Your Northern Turners

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

I am (for some stupid reason) having trouble with the 'northern.turners.org.au' email account. Till I get it fixed please send all articles to i.am.batman.1959@gmail.com

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Some comments by Ron Allen.

Currently, Helen and I are caravanning on Eyre Peninsular and therefore I will be an apology for the AGM and SGM, but I wished to convey my thoughts about this matter.

Over the past 55 years of volunteering, I have been involved in some way with developing or changing a constitution. On each occasion there has been some angst and frustration about getting the most effective outcome. Many often question the need to have a constitution. However, by law, every incorporated association must have a constitution.

What is a constitution? I found the following extracts when googling the subject and thought them worth repeating.

A constitution is a basic set of rules for the daily running of your club or group. It details for your members and others the name, objects, methods of management and other conditions under which your club or group operates, and generally the reasons for its existence.

Why do clubs have constitutions?

Most constitutions are general but require the club to develop an agreed 'Statement of Purpose', outlining its overall objectives. The constitution is a useful document for defining the authority that flows to and from the Committee and provides the club rules and obligations of the Committee and its members.

Of the list of suggested changes, there are only two which cause concern for me, (8.1.1 and 9.1)

8.1.1 *The business of ordinary general meetings shall be for the membership to **ratify any decisions made by the committee** in their running of the Club*

To be replaced by:

8.1.1 The business of ordinary general meetings shall be to **inform the membership of any decisions of the committee** in their running of the club.

I expressed my opposition to this proposed change some months ago in writing, but the committee seems keen to go ahead with it. I think that it is a dangerous change which takes away any decision-making processes from the Club membership and gives the Committee the right to make any decision and simply inform the membership of it. You may argue that the current committee is above that, but what about future committees. This is one of the main safeguards in having a good constitution. It replaces democratic processes with an autocratic one. **THUS 8.1.1 SHOULD NOT BE CHANGED.**

Item 9.1 Twenty-five (25) financial members (or 50% of financial members – whichever is lower) shall constitute a quorum at any general meeting.

I believe this must be changed. Knowledge gained from previous meetings where quorums have been difficult to meet simply reflects members attitudes towards such meetings. I think that our large membership makes it more difficult to form a quorum. Many are elderly (unlike my youthful 82) and not always able to travel to meetings. Many enjoy membership without physically attending meetings. It would be a shame if our club folded simply because of a quorum. This in fact is what happened to Woodgroup SA where over many years AGMs had to be postponed with the end result of dissolution.

Third Saturday Demonstration 2022

15 Oct	Tea lights & colour spinning	George Pastuch
19 Nov	Miniature bird houses	George Pastuch

Forth Saturday Demonstration 2022

22 Oct	AGM Decorative work in jewellery boxes	David Hough
26 Nov	Unusual woods to turn	Ron Allen

Northern Turners Committee

2021/22

President	Tim Smeaton
Secretary	Dale Starr
Treasurer	David Kleinig
Vice President	Bill Elliott
Member	Rob Williams
Member	Guido Guidi
Member	Fred McCann
Member	Nik Surikov
Member	Graham Reed
Member	Flora Rumbelow



Presented by Stuart Hunnisett

- Peter Page brought a salt and pepper shaker, plus some resin colours bought from Kmart.
- Jan Beare showed a small bottle with stopper.
- Tim Skilton had a bowl made from radiata pine
- Eric Burmeister showed us an elaborate and a huon pine piece (which looked like a candle stick)
- Keith Lane had a myrtle bowl.
- Roger Humphris brought a chess set turned from Hebel stone.
- Ed Zahra has everyone puzzled with the piece he brought, which turned out to be a hub for power points in his shed.
- Guido Guidi showed a lidded box with contrasting insert (after a challenge from Tim Skilton)
- Jeff Todd had a small lamp with a myall base and a shade turned (very thinly) from liquid amber.
- Dale Starr brought a square huon pine bowl turned by Tim Skilton and waves carved into the rim by Dale.



- Stuart Hunnisett brought three mushrooms and a small bottle with stopper.

The halo was awarded to Jeff Todd.

Reported by Dale Starr (with many thanks from the editor).

Link box

Otto Timber (14 Glen Stuart Road, Magill SA) Adelaide's new-ish source of far too attractive timber.

Mentioning you are a member of Northern Turners will get you a discount price.

(<https://www.ottotimber.com.au>)

From Nik Surikov:

"I was not happy with the live centre on my lathe & worked out that the bearings were 'broken'. I went to **Statewide Electric Motor Centre**, Beulah Rd, Norwood & asked if they could help. An hour later I left with my fully restored live centre."

(<https://www.semc.com.au/>)

Gordon Best has been working on our webpage and would like as many of us as possible to check it out and give him feedback please.

<http://www.northernturners.org.au/nt-wpstaging/>

Rob W

From your Editor.

We've heard it said quite a lot, "How fast should you turn?"
Answer, as fast as safely possible.

But how fast is that wood actually turning when its nicely balanced & not shaking the lathe?

For instance:

a 150mm bowl blank spinning smoothly at 1500 rpm?

- 150mm diameter = 471.2mm circumference
- @ 1500rpm = 706,858.34mm per minute.
- That equals **42.4 kph.**

So, ~~when~~ if the tip of ~~my~~ your gouge catches, digs in, pivots on the tool rest & tries to jerk out of ~~my~~ your hand, the end of the tool close to ~~me~~ you is moving faster than you're allowed to drive in some suburban streets.

Its no wonder the piece cracks at the foot and comes out of the chuck ... hypothetically.

- ♦ Wear your face mask.
- ♦ Rub the bevel.
- ♦ Fine, gentle cuts.
- ♦ Keep your tools sharp.

Maybe i should write that on the wall of my shed? 🤔

some info I'll be on the road to WA for November so the newsletter may be a bit delayed getting out but I will be taking my laptop with me & will get it done (eventually). I've asked others to give me help so there will still be lots of photos & information.

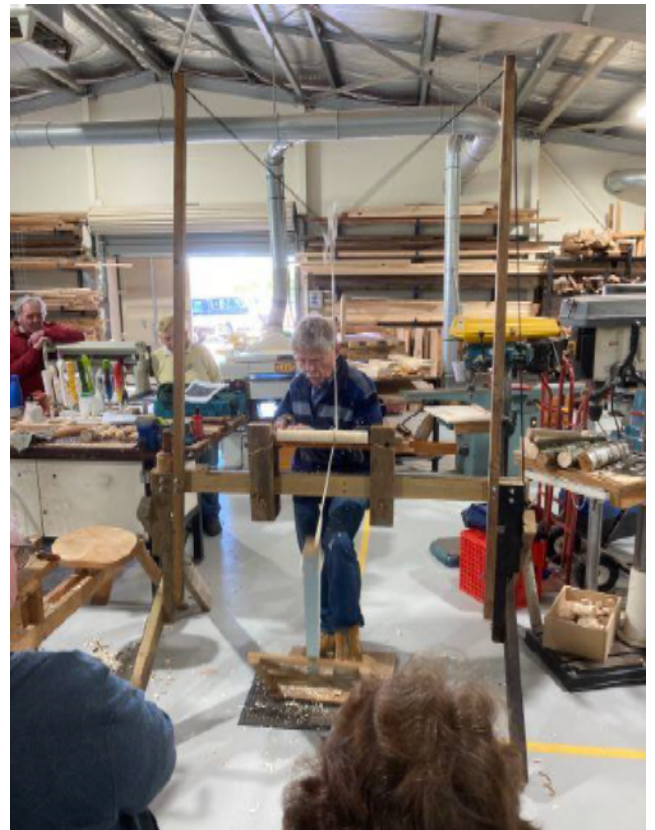
Cheers, Rob Williams 🕶️

Demonstrations

Roger Humphris talked a bit about Toymendous and showed us some samples of the toys they make. Early next year he will bring in some timber and details of turned items (mostly wheels) which members will be encouraged to make.



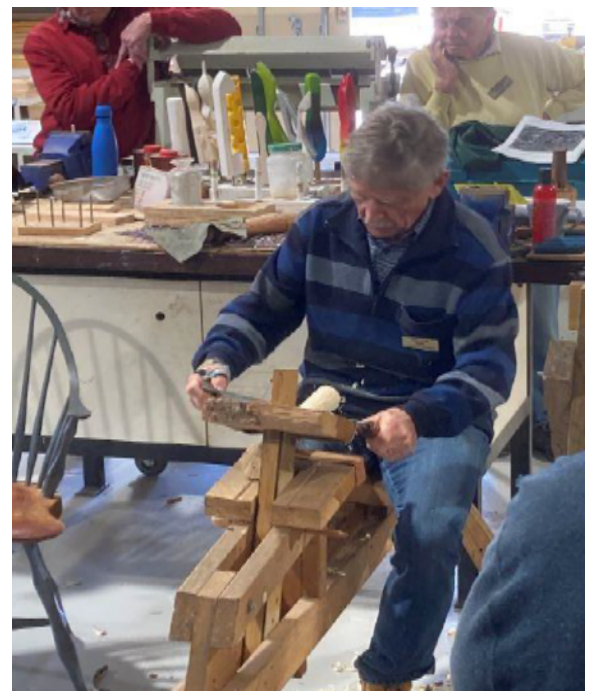
Guido Guidi brought in his router table and talked about the difference between fixed-base routers and plunger routers, safety aspects of using a router and other information about router use. He then showed us how to cut mortises for use with a floating tenon. Later, he showed a number of remaining members how to use a panel door bit and a raised panel bit to make a floating frame.



Trevor Green gave us a demonstration on his pole lathe, first giving a history of such lathes and how they are used. He then showed how it is used.

He also brought his shave horse which is typically used to create a round profile before turning by using a draw-knife.

Dale Starr - secretary



2023 4th Saturday Demonstrations

January	Trevor Green Jeff Todd	Finials Chuck maintenance
February	Flora R. Peter Page	Table clocks Miniature bird-boxes
March	Tim Skilton	Bowl-saver with green wood

Ron Allen demonstration - Texturing - 17 Sep 22

Ron demonstrated a number of texturing tools including commercially available as well as several that are able to be manufactured by members themselves.

He discussed how the speed the piece is spinning affects the turner appearance of the texture produced. Additionally the angle the tool is applied to the piece alters the textures produced.

Ron used colour to highlight the texture and bracketed those colours using the point a skew chisel to cut rings to separate each colour. A combination of paint and ebonizing fluid (vinegar & steel wool) produces a two tone effect - the paint on the raised area, the ebonizing fluid blackening the valleys created by the texturing. Felt tip pens are a simple way to add colour to highlight the peaks of the texturing. 'Cheap' pens are better for highlighting because, well, they're cheap and the colours are more dynamic.

The colour and hardness of the timber affects the pattern as well. End grain timber produces 'better' textures than cross grain.

