

TURNOUT

VOL6 No.2
February 2015

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NORTHERN TURNERS INC.

NT Presidents Blurb for February Turnout 2015

February was a busy month with our regular meetings as well as the Liam O'Neill weekend. Thanks to Tim and Greg for organising this event. Most of us just turn up (excuse the pun) on the day and forget that someone has spent considerable amounts of time to make it happen. Thanks also to Anne & Brian for the tea breaks – an essential part of the day! And Tony Davies for getting covered in sawdust to hold the camera !

We always learn something from our demonstrators; both Liam & Michael talked about the constant practise making the same shapes as a professional turner over many years – practise makes perfect as they say!

At the 4th Sat meeting John Girdler demonstrated the procedure for making a travel mug that would make a great gift. Thanks John for your detailed preparation for this demo.

This leads me into a topic for you, the members, to consider & bring your thoughts to the next meeting: What format would you like for the 4th Saturday meetings. ??

Are you happy with a demonstration & networking ?

Or would you prefer to work on the lathes ?

Our programme will try to cover both of these options . I will endeavour to keep the meeting as short as possible. Show & Tell is an important part of the day, however members should aim to keep their descriptions concise, but still informative. This will then leave time for demos & turning.

The 3rd & 4th Sat meetings in March are focused on lidded box decoration, leading to our Box Competition in April. I'm looking forward to a great display of your talent!!

Jan

New Committee

President	Jan Beare
Secretary / Correspondence	Dale Starr
Treasurer	Robert Edge
Vice President	Tim Smeaton
Member	Bill Elliot
Member	Glenn Kutchen
Member	Graham Reed
Member	Jake Jacobs

Your Northern Turners

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

EDITOR'S NOTE



Well I am back from our yearly pilgrimage to Mallacoota for two weeks of fishing, drinking copious amounts of red wine and watching glorious sun sets over an inlet salt water lake. I wonder what my lathe looks like.

Our president has asked me to publish a late edition of the February newsletter. So here it is. Thanks to all who forwarded articles at the last minute. I also took the liberty of providing my own profile as I seem to have mislaid or did not receive Jake's last email

I am warming to my idea for a "Letters to the Editor" section? I will broach this with the committee at the next meeting.

I would also like to forward my apology to Jake Jacobs and Bill Elliot for cutting off the end of his profile section. I have added the last two sections below.

George Pastuch

THE LAST TWO SECTIONS FROM BILL ELLIOT'S PROFILE

What is your favourite piece and do you still have it? My favourite piece is the one I just sold; this means that someone else liked it enough to shell out cash for it, proving that all the dust and mess is worthwhile. I have had great success with fruit, thanks to Brian Fraser for his inspirational demo

Describe your workshop Only small but it does have 4 windows and a door," very handy" Two benches, covered in all the things I can't find a place for, a timber rack with wood waiting to crack so I can chuck it out. And my chair where most of my inspiration is found .

Turned Box Competition

4th Saturday Meeting - Sat 25th April

Learn to make a box at the **Feb. 3rd Sat.** meeting

Decorate the lid of your box at **March 3rd Sat.** meet

Learn to make a lattice lidded container at the **March 4th Sat** meeting.

(bring a piece of timber **70-90cm square x 100mm** (don't round off) to make a lattice work lidded container)

At the **April 4th Sat** meeting bring along your best turned lidded boxes for display and a peer vote. Bring maximum of 3 lidded boxes per person. All items will be numbered.

Beginners Section (under 12 months experience)

Old Hands Section (everyone else)

We may divide into multiple sections if we get a good turn out.

Voting slips will be provided for a secret ballot

Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd in each sections

Website News

MEMBERS ONLY

The Northern Turners website now has a MEMBERS ONLY section. Its purpose is to provide information to members that is not appropriate for general publication. Such information may include ready access to Jake's personal profiles, exhibition rules and conditions, and a pricing guide for articles sold under Northern Turners' name. Other items will be added as and when they become available.

To access this section of the website you will need a username and password which will be emailed to all financial members within the next few weeks and will be valid for the next twelve months. Click on the link (currently on the MEMBERSHIP page of the website) and, on entering your username and password, you should go straight to the members' site. The links on the right hand side will not all be active initially, but should give a good indication of our intentions.

Feedback will be appreciated. Is the information useful? Are there other things that you would like to see there? In particular, should Turnout be for members only?

EXPANDED GALLERY

One of the most popular pages of the website is the gallery and it is a concern that it has not changed over the past few years. We have quite a large number of photos of 'show and tell' items and items exhibited over the past few years and it is planned to display these in groups on separate pages – Bowls, Boxes, Fruit, Platters, Vases, etc. At present, the pictures do not represent the range of work done by NT, so if anyone has photos of other items – pens, pendants, salt and peppershakers, candlesticks, etc., it would help to broaden the range. Photos just need to be sharp, with an uncluttered background, and have a resolution of about 800 x 600 pixels or better.

The plan is to start putting up what we have and in many cases the items will not be identified. If you recognise an item of yours, please advise me and also identify the wood used, so that it can be properly captioned. If you object to your item being displayed on the web, please advise and it will be removed.

FACEBOOK

As reported previously, the committee has agreed to establish a Northern Turners Facebook presence. This will not compete with the website, but is expected to reach an entirely new audience of people who would not normally hear about woodturning. Given the difficulty we have advertising events such as Wood Revisited and Moonlight Markets, we hope this new initiative may attract a range of new visitors who may, in time, come to appreciate the value of fine woodwork.

Unlike the normal facebook account, we do not propose to post intimate details of our everyday life, but simply to post information about woodturning and Northern Turners events that may interest the large number of people who can be persuaded to 'like' us. It will not be necessary to have a facebook account to view the NT facebook page. We hope this will be a way of getting our message out to the wider population.

If you could assist in developing and maintaining this page, we would like to hear from you.

Gordon Best

FORSALE

DELTA IRON BED 1440 WOOD LATHE

14" Variable Speed----- Speed range 450 to 2600rpm

Model 46-715 Serial No 4004

Outboard turning head stock and tool rest

Motor 1hp

Steel stand, face plate and centres

Little use from new

Only \$350 (negotiable)

Contact Fred McCann mobile 0414 581 937

Email fredmccann1937@hotmail.com



MEMBER PROFILE—George Pastuch

What part of Adelaide are you from? I was brought up at Royal Park, moved around Adelaide frequently as a teenager and my wife and I built our family home in Modbury North

What was or is your occupation and background? I did my trade at Lloyds at Port Adelaide, obtained Engineering and Adult Education degrees and later worked in various engineering and manufacturing companies. The last 25 years of work was for an electrical manufacturing company called Clipsal as an Engineering manager and Project manager. I am now retired.

How did you get into woodturning? During a holiday to New Zealand, my wife wanted to buy a turned item for several hundred dollars but I said there was no reason why I could not make one instead. When we returned home I did a turning course with Ron Allen in 1999.

What Lathes do you current use? I have two Woodfast lathes. A C100X, a digital variable speed and a M305 similar to the mini Woodfasts at NT

What is your dream lathe? Although there are better quality lathes on the market I am very happy with my Woodfast C1000X.

What was the first thing you turned? The first thing I made was a pen and letter opener set in Cypress Pine at a course by Ron Allen

What is your favourite kind of turning ? My favourite turning would be natural edge bowls. I believe that it shows off the best in any timber.

What do you find the most challenging to turn? The most challenging, that's easy—upside down hollowing cut with end grain turning. I think Raffin first showed us and Bill Elliot can do it extremely well. I have not yet mastered the technique.

What type of timber do you like turning most? Western Myall

What is your favourite part of your workshop? The most obvious answer is my lathe where we do what we love to do. However, let me be a little artistic and say the shed door. It is the anticipation of what I will do when I enter and carrying out a completed piece as I leave .

What do you like best about Northern Turners meeting? Northern Turners is a great club. I have been a member for some 15 years and believe that I have received more than I have put in. It has been a place where I enjoy the fellowship of people with similar interests. I have expanded my skills as a woodturner and now have the opportunity to pass on those skills to others.

What is your favourite piece and do you still have it? My wife's favourite is a hanging spider I turned at SATurn. I do not get emotionally attached to my pieces, so the next piece I turn and like will be my next favourite.

Describe your workshop My shed has become our shed as my wife Franky is also a Woodgroup member and makes toys for Toymendous and is also a scroller with South Oz Scrollers. Our shed is cluttered with lots of timber, pieces of equipment, gardening implements and lots more. I have walled off a third of it for my own little den. It is cozy and equipped with a band saw, 2 lathes , a dust extractor, a bench and a grinding wheel all in a space measuring 3.3M x 2.4M.



Our shed



My den

A three Banjo Setup

When or why would you possibly have or even think you need 3 banjos of your lathe at the same time. Is this a case of the oft noted syndrome “ tool over collectus” or is there some reason that 2 or 3 are better than 1.

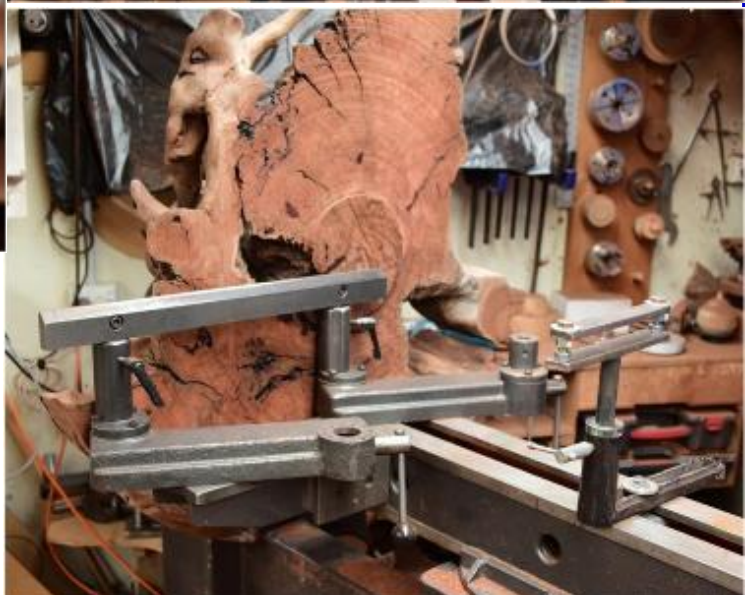
I do have 3 in use at the same time and before someone jumps in and says, Oh, I assume you have 3 lathes and that’s one each, let me add that all 3 are on the same lathe. At the start of the morning I was only using 1 with a 30cm wide tool rest but I had to move it several times to get across the face of the blank that was 1370mm wide, that became worrismatic so I thought about a better way. I have a 600mm wide toolrest that has two posts so it needs 2 banjos and I was able to set it up so I could work across the outer range of the face of the blank without moving the rest. Excellent result. But the wood is so hard that I starting using TCT tipped cutters rather than the ½” gouge that was becoming visibly shorter from the many visits to the newly purchased CBN grinding wheel. Those wheels create a very sharp edge but just love steel. They consume it with every visit.

As the TCT cutters are really scrapers, there is always the possibility when handled clumsily, of the tool self feeding to the extent that the end of the handle will be automatically raised up very rapidly, extracting an expletive from the so called holder of the tool while creating a deeper furrow in the blank than was actually required. Such furrows are sometimes called design opportunities but I didn’t need any in the blank as there were enough in it already. So in an attempt to guard against this automatic expletive generation process, a third banjo was employed behind the first 2 with a trap rather than a tool rest. The trap consists of a tool post welded onto a flat steel strap with a second steel strap mounted above and parallel to the first with a bolt at each end. The gap between the 2 straps is adjustable with these two bolts and is set to allow the end of the handle of the tool to be placed in between the straps. Remove the “s”es and now you know why its called a trap. Of course the trap works best if your tool handle is a constant profile through the whole length that will be in the trap. So the disadvantage is that any of those hand pleasing gentle curves of most handles are no good for this setup. My answer is water pipe, angle iron and 3 large grub screws.

And the wood – redgum from Red Hill, which has been drying out for more than 50 years, according to the farmer who donated the stump. The largest shavings has probably been about 2 cms long and it doesn’t matter how much you touch or rub the bevel, that’s as good as it gets.

And here’s the images of the banjos.

Greg Jackson



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>Who</u>	<u>Material needed.</u> You are encouraged to bring your own.
MAR 14th	Come and work on your projects. Think of exhibition work.	Bill Elliot	Whatever you need for your project. Enthusiasm
MAR 21st	Resin Tops for Lidded Boxes & flocking boxes	Ron Allen/	Bring Box lids ready to fill.
MAR 28th	Lattice turned lid	Bill Elliot	
April FRI 3rd to MON 6th	Easter period		
APRIL 11th	Come and work on your projects. Think of exhibition work.	Bill Elliot	Whatever you need for your project. Enthusiasm
APRIL 18th	Not yet decided	Ron Allen/	
APRIL 25th	Pepper grinders Crush Grind and other mechanisms		Bring in your lidded boxes from 3rd Sat Feb and 4th Sat March, or just your favourite turned box for a peer vote. There will be prizes for beginners and old hands too .
MAY 23rd	Pendants	Jake Jacobs	