

TURNOUT

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NORTHERN TURNERS INC.

FROM THE EDITOR

Although I enjoy the role as newsletter editor, at times I find the role frustrating. This is one of these times where I seem to be doing all the articles. Therefore you have to put up with my writing. I will however thank Tim Smeaton for his poem from last year which I postponed till this edition. Refer page 2. My wife and I will be caravanning in Tasmania for the next two months so the next Turnout might be a bit thin especially if I do not receive anything from you people.

CHRISTMAS BBQ 2018

The annual Christmas BBQ was held on the 1st December last year. Despite the heat there was a good turnout. Rather than sit outside it was decided to sit inside in the air-conditioning. Two hardy souls braved the heat and perspired over the BBQ. Many thanks.

George Pastuch was presented a Life Membership by our new president Ken Allan. After a few short speeches, we got down to the serious business of eating. The raffle was drawn and Hal Sneddon won the huge Christmas cake.



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Send all articles to

turnout@woodgroupsa.org.au

Your Northern Turners

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

Vaughn Richmond Workshop November 2018

Vaughn Richmond came to demonstrate from the other side of the Earth,
No, I am really only joking, he came across from Perth!
And Tim told us of his sayings, or are they really fables,
“My work is what I can do and what I’d like to if I’m able.”
As a turner he enjoys discussion of design quite hypothetical
But combines love of good design with what is really practical.
And to find a pleasing shape, this turner did implore us
To look at ancient pottery, the useful Greek amphoras.

In some ways I found your approach was really too meticulous,
Sanding to 800 grit, To me that sounds ridiculous,
But the quality of the finish on the pieces you completed
Is something that in our hands is unlikely to be repeated.
And he will not use cracked wood, he say mending will not last
At the thought of Supaglu, Vaughn was clearly quite aghast,
But the hot melt gun from Bosch means his glue is not too thin
As he cuts a small groove especially to squeeze the hot glue in.

Application of gold leaf to an indented border
Was tricky and this technique ain’t made to order
And Chris stuck on her fingers, the gold leaf she took,
As he guilelessly said “Take a leaf from my book”.
As he coated the borders or inside with size
Our intrepid turner was heard to advise
“Use a hair-dryer now, and wait till it gets tacky”
(But the Kiwis asked, “What do you mean, it’s Waitake).

The second day promises pictures of Vaughn’s
Powerpoint presentation will prevent any yawns
As he highlights design used in so many ways,
Pieces spread round the world in collectors’ displays,
And then to the practical, if it’s brass that you’re needing
To lift up a bowl, then this turner you’re heeding
As he uses plumbing fittings, we’ll see tapers he’s turned,
Then his fees will be justified, really well earned.

Thank you,

Tim Smeaton October 3-4 2018

WHEN IS A TREE NOT A TREE.

Franky (my wife) and I recently cruised to New Zealand and spent some time touring through the movie set Hobbiton for movies The Hobbit and the Lord Of The Rings. A very interesting and picturesque site. We were told lots of interesting stuff and I will reiterate two of these.

One of the scenes has Bilbo sitting under a large pine tree. Unfortunately the pine trees of which there were several dotted around the valley was in the wrong position. So what did Peter Jackson the producer request, a 20 metre pine tree next to Bilbo's house rather than create another house. See attached photo of the tree.

The tree trunk and branches were made of steel and poly styrene foam. There were 70,000 artificial leaves purchased from Taiwan which had to be individually attached to the tree. The tree was assembled but the scene was not shot for a few months and the sun had turned all the surface leaves blue. Again the producer was unhappy and hired several uni students to individually spray paint each leaf back to the desired colour.



In another scene one of the hobbits was sitting beneath a small plum tree. Unfortunately there were only apple trees growing in the valley. You would think the obvious was to buy a plum tree and plant it for the shot. No, the fastidious producer was delighted with the size and shape of the apple tree. So, just before the shoot, all the apple leaves and fruit were removed from the tree and plum leaves and plums were individually attached .

But it is not just New Zealanders who have gone potty. At recent trip to Canberra we visited a open air art gallery and one of the many exhibitions was the three artificial yakka things. The trunks were covered with coloured insulated wire, the middle part was hundreds of plastic ties and the tops were made up of alfoil. You may laugh but the selling price was \$20,000

George Pastuch



EDITOR'S NOTE

The program for the 3rd and 4th Saturday was finalised this week but is not yet up on the NT site. Hopefully it will be updated shortly.

In case you forgot, the Northern Turners calendar is found at
<https://teamup.com/kscfeefc5dc14d24cf>

The following article has been copied from the Woodgroup Newsletter June 2007 number 260. It was part of an article published in the Leader.

When reading it while trying to find a small article from archives, I was again touched by the generosity and forethought, courage and determination by two of our past Northern Turners members. For me it was a time to reflect on not only these two outstanding men but on all friends, past and present, I have made through woodturning.

George Pastuch

Article in Leader, May 16, 2007

Dick Pillar has been volunteering for the Royal Society for the Blind (RSB) for six years and has one thing to say to anyone who is considering volunteering, "go for it".

A member of the Woodgroup SA, Dick was approached by the RSB to assist Albert, an RSB client who wanted to learn wood-turning. "I used to be a wood-work teacher so I have many skills that I could pass on to Albert" Dick says. He says he clicked with Albert from the start. "I've now taken him in as one of the family", Dick says grinning.

After Dick determined Albert's needs and adapted some equipment, they never looked back. Albert soon progressed to using a lathe and last November, had three pieces of wood turning in an exhibition at Urrbrae House.

"I felt really proud to know that I had played a role in his achievement" Dick Said.



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