

TURNOUT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NORTHERN TURNERS INC.

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President's notes for December 2020

Dear members

What a damn nuisance that we had to cancel the barbecue. First there was the lockdown, then there were continuing Covid cases in several places, then it hit 40 C yesterday and about 36 today!! However, at least we were able to meet for the AGM and that gave many of us a chance to catch up on our news for most of 2020.

The move to Torrens Valley Christian School is under way. Graham Reed and Bill Elliot had a brief meeting with Jannie Oosthuizen and Chris Martin last week to discuss setting up a container, security arrangements and temporary storage of materials moved from GGHS. Graham has organized a brand-new container which will be delivered and set up on site in mid-December. This is a major purchase for the club, but it is really an asset and if the club had to move in the future, it could be re-located, or sold to re-coup much of the outlay.

In his usual efficient way Graham is planning shelving and access to the container, and we are very lucky to have him taking the lead with these arrangements. A group of members with trailers will transfer the lathes and other hardware on a day to be fixed, so if you are asked, please put your hand up. A small group of well organized guys with appropriate vehicles should make it a smooth process. All keys to GGHS must be handed over to Deb Goodwin, and we will meet up with her when we finish the move from the shed at GGHS.

As I said in an email to Deb Goodwin, Northern Turners has gone from strength to strength during our 25 odd years at the school, and it has been a very successful time for all. We leave with mixed feelings, but the severe restrictions imposed on us during 2020 and likely to continue into 2021 have forced our hand.

The club is very lucky to have had Leith Davidson, Mick Adley, David Kleinig, Chris Deguet, Robert Edge and many others to open the gates and the tech centre, supply tea and coffee, set up the microphone and/or TV, then look after the final clean-up after meetings, ensuring that everything is secure before they leave. Thank you all on behalf of Northern Turners.

The committee will let you know when we can have our first meeting at TVCS, but we would like it to be some time

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Northern Turners Committee

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

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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in January. There will be restrictions on numbers because of Covid-19, but with the new premises, there is a big verandah and access to the oval, so we can “overflow” into these areas, while complying with social distancing etc. Remember relay races in primary school?- (Did you drop the baton?) -. We may have to re-enact them at a slower pace as we drift in and out of our new abode.

Remember that Ken Allen and John Tillack and a couple of other gentlemen are working on the very complex process of dissolving WoodgroupSA, and we wish them well with that job. It certainly won't be easy.

Hopefully, Show and Tell in 2021 will be hands on rather than “virtual”, but thank you to all who contributed photos and stories during the year. It helped to keep members in touch, and raise spirits while we were restricted in our activities.

A sad note – Hans Noom died recently. He was a former member, well liked, and I recall a demonstration where he produced a hollow form in the shape of a vase, with a concealed cut on the shoulder. It inspired me to make a much smaller version. Also, he loaned me his gouges one day, and I have never worked with sharper tools! Vale Hans.

The Burnside Exhibition is now on again, and 24 of our members are exhibiting their pieces. We hope for good attendance and sales.

Enough rambling for now. I, and all the committee, wish you all the very best for the festive season, stay well and we hope to have a great year in 2020

Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to all,

Tim Smeaton

Christmas goodies.

Christmas almost here. Trees to set up. Make some tree ornaments or even table decorations. Here are a few ideas.



Xmas tree with tinsel

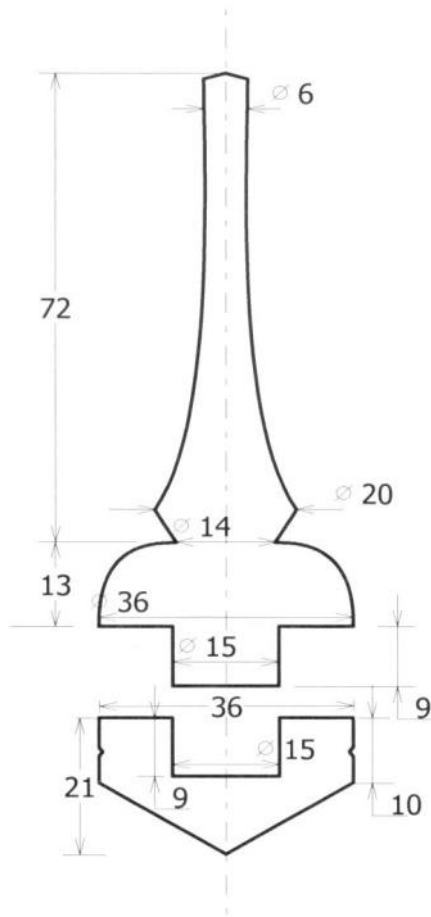


Tree ornaments. Colour, add a tie in the top and colour.



Snow man. Get the children to colour them. Don't forget the nose

Christmas coming up. This past year of lock down amid COVID, cleaning out your old CDs. Utilise them by making a CD spinning top. Below a plan to help you. Turn the two parts , insert the CD between them and glue.



REMEMBER—Australian Design Standards require the spigot to be a minimum 35mm to prevent a choking hazard.

CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE

Here is something for people to think about, research, make and present at the SHOW & TELL at the first general meeting at our new premises.

A ROUND TUIT

I am sure we can find some prizes for various categories. What categories you ask, don't know! Something to look forward to.

George Pastuch

Trees 'n' Timber

Mallee

(*Eucalyptus species*)

Derivation of names

Eucalyptus from Greek 'eu', and 'kalyptos' meaning well covered and referring to the cap (operculum) which covers and protects the bud.

It is often said that **Mallee** is as Australian as is the kangaroo. It is uniquely Australian, having its origins as an Aboriginal word. The term 'Mallee' is commonly used to describe three different aspects. *First* is to describe a growth form of some eucalypts. *Secondly*, in reference to even height formations of scrub, and *thirdly*, describing a geographic area, eg. the Murray Mallee. These areas are usually associated with the wheat belt country having low rainfall.

The common names of several mallees can be misleading. There are several called red mallee and white mallee. The most common and widespread in South Australia are Red Mallee (*Euc. socialis*), White Mallee or Yorrell (*Euc. gracilis*), Oil Mallee (*Euc. oleosa*) and Narrow leaved Red Mallee (*Euc. foecunda*).

The Tree.

Although Mallee can grow to a tall erect tree to 10 metres high, it is usually a small multi-stemmed tree. As such, they have several small trunks growing from a swollen rootstock called a ligno-tuber. These ligno-tubers have the ability to regenerate new growth, even after serious damage by fire or drought. As such, mallee is almost indestructible, and many are thought to be up to 500 years old. In the past, these ligno-tubers were in great demand as mallee roots for firewood.

The tree is typically of an open form having several umbragious (umbrella shaped) crowns.

Habitat

Widely distributed over much of South Australia, central NSW, western Victoria, and southern Western Australia..

Timber.

The trees are too small to produce commercial timber, and the stems usually develop pipes from insect attack and heart rot. The timber is usually pale in colour, has a fine texture with close even grain. However, the trunks develop many burls, which provide beautiful colour and figure. These are much sought after for woodturning. The ligno tubers also provide beautiful timber. The grain in the ligno tubers and burls is tightly curled and usually can be worked and dried without undue splitting or cracking.

By Ron Allen

The Mallee Walk at the Waite Arboretum is just 15 minutes from Adelaide and it features over 100 mallees. All the trees planted at the arboretum are watered until they're established, and then they survive on rainfall alone. Unlike some large growing eucalypts with aggressive root systems, mallees have deep roots to tap into ground water, so they are quite suitable for small gardens.

Ref :-<https://www.abc.net.au/gardening/factsheets/mallee-trees/9427326>



Picture of a tree and flowers of *Eucalyptus Viridus* commonly known as Green Mallee. Green Mallee is a big honey producer in New South Wales, and it is an important eucalypt used for the distillation of essential oils.

EDITOR'S NOTE:- The following article was initially printed in the Northern Turners Turnout in January 2013

WINE GLASS CADDY

Jim Nurse - September 2012

Start with a piece of wood at least 260mm long – this will give a 10mm stub at each end of the finished article for holding between center's. These “stubs” will be cut away just prior to the touch-up hand sanding at the end of the process.

The thickness of the wood is not critical – I have used anything from 45mm thick Pine or Tasmanian Oak to 19mm thick offcuts of Jarrah decking – the final choice is governed only by your own preference (and the availability of material).

Similarly, the width of the wood used can vary from a minimum of approximately 52mm (this allows a couple of mm for “cleaning up” the finished product) and may be increased depending on the diameter of the center hole * - a wall thickness of around 8 - 10mm seems to be OK.

Mark a center line down the middle of one of the wider faces parallel to the edge of the wood.

Mark a center line at right-angles to this line equally distant from the ends (i.e. if the piece of wood you are starting with is 260mm long then this will be 130mm from either end).

Make two more cross marks 102 – 103mm each side of the center marking.

Drill appropriate sized holes at each of these three marked points (e.g. 32mm at the center and 22mm at the end points). (These hole sizes are not “set in concrete”, they just happened to be the sizes of the Forstner bits I had available and the holes were the right size for several wine bottles on which I tried the finished product.)

Mount wood on lathe between centers.

Take off sharp corners with a roughing or similar gouge (or any other tool of your choice).

Establish the overall length of the finished article (i.e. 240mm) with a parting tool.

At the center point - with a parting tool - establish a diameter of 50mm.

Mark 25mm either side of the center to indicate the limits of the middle 50mm diameter “ball” and at these points – with a parting tool – turn down to 25mm diameter.

Turn the center “ball” to approximate shape.

At the center points of the two end holes – with a parting tool – turn down to 35mm diameter.

Mark in 35mm from each end to indicate the limits of the end 35mm “balls” and at these points – with a parting tool – turn down to 20mm diameter.

Turn each end “ball” down to approximate shape.

At points not quite equally distant (I tend to move my mark 5mm or so nearer to the end) between the center and end “balls” – with a parting tool – turn down to 12mm diameter.

Final shaping of the “balls” and tapering of the joining “shafts” can now be done with a detail gouge (and/or a skew chisel if so desired).

Once the final shaping is complete, sand down to suitable smoothness while still on the lathe using grades of abrasive from 120 up to 400 grit (or finer if desired).

Remove from the lathe and touch up if required on a belt sander.

Cut slots through the ends of the outer “balls”.

A final touch-up sanding can be done by hand to remove any sharp edges.

Apply desired finish (I usually apply two coats of lacquer).

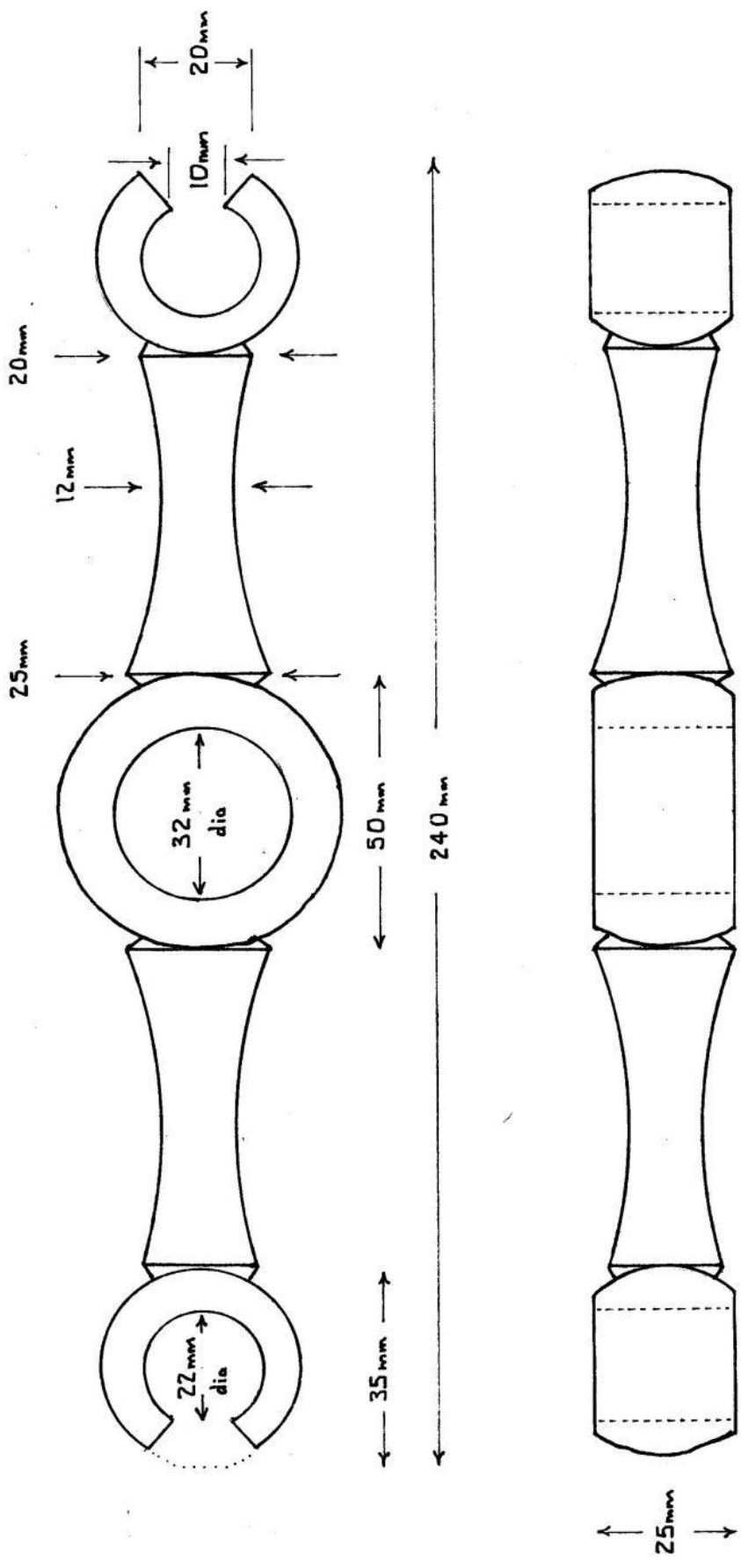
*I have made some of these caddies with a larger (i.e. 40mm) center hole. (The outside dimension of the center “ball will have to be increased in order to maintain a reasonable wall thickness.)

This allows the caddy to fit over the top of a “bubbly” bottle.

The drawing in attached to the following page.

WINE GLASS CADDY

JIM NURSE 2012



DIMENSIONS SHOWN ON THE DRAWING ABOVE ARE SUGGESTIONS ONLY AND MAY BE VARIED TO SUIT INDIVIDUAL TASTES AND MATERIALS AVAILABLE