

TURNOUT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NORTHERN TURNERS INC.

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President's review of the past year

Dissolution of WoodgroupSA

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The move to TVCS

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First, Graham Reed – absolutely indispensable and we must applaud all the work he has done.

Next, all the helpers including Bill Elliot, David Gilland, Allan Britcher, Robert Edge (and even me) who put up shelves, painted the container, and made ramps etc.

Then, the group of 8-9 helpers, even with Allan's grandson Sam, who used their vehicles and trailers to move all the club's materials from Golden Grove High School to here. A massive task, achieved in 2 trips and no casualties. Thank you all, you know who you are and I might forget a name if I try to recall all of you.

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The \$5 fee for each meeting will remain as before. Fortunately, the cost of the facility at TVCS is less than GGHS, so the club will make a saving there (\$200 per month is the agreed figure). However, the cost of the container and associated shelving and ventilation have been considerable, and we will have some additional costs with catering.

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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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Keys for TVCS: Five sets of keys have been distributed to Tim Smeaton, Graham Reed, Bill Elliot, Ron Allen and George Pastuch. If anyone must have access to the club's materiel, then one of these members have access to the TVCS technical centre.

Catering for meetings. Coffee, milk, and sugar will be supplied in sachets, along with tea-bags. This will avoid any sharing of ingredients, or open tins of coffee, or milk cartons which would be shared. Members will bring their own cups, and must take them home with them. Any cups, or other personal items must be taken away after meetings. We cannot store them for you!

Keep turning up and turning out excellent work!

Tim Smeaton

FROM THE EDITOR

As has almost becomes traditional after most major events or visiting professional turners, Tim Smeaton our own poet has again written a poem relating to our move to Torrens Valley Christian School.

The Move to Torrens Valley Christian School!

For over a quarter century, Northern Turners made their home
At Golden Grove Tech Centre, and saw no need to roam,
But Covid virus caused our club to change our meeting plans
No demonstrations, not a chance to show our skilful hands
At Golden Grove they set the scene, not there till '21,
So we went searching everywhere, we only needed one
Good place to hold our meetings, enjoy camaraderie,
Catch up with friends, and learn new skills, a club in harmony.
For there's a risk to any club, deprived of its main function
To give us mutual friendship, so there was a need for action.

We got in touch with councils, the airport was a chance
But all in vain, though truth to tell, we did a merry dance
Looked at venues, some too small, or parking wasn't right,
And commercial rates were much too high, gave us all a fright.
And then came our Tim Skilton, who runs workshops for our lot,
He got in touch with another school, it could be worth a shot,
And thanks to his endeavours, Torrens Valley to the fore
Their centre was ideal for us, but there was something more
We needed our own storage, keep our lathes and all secure,
How could we solve this problem, was there any simple cure?

Well, the move, with all the lathes, the bandsaw, lots of stuff
Three trailers, two more vehicles, that looked to be enough
And eight or nine strong members turned up to lend a hand
And though not young or nimble, they made a useful band.
Grandson Sam reminded me of Grinch up on Mount Crumpet
Loaded on a sack-truck, he took our rubbish off to dump it!
They worked with quiet efficiency, trailer loads securely roped
Manhandled heavy cupboards, no damaged backs we hoped,
And with two trips, our cavalcade traversed the main highway
To Torrens Valley Christian School, near Hope Valley way

In just four hours they moved the lot, everything inside

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The shed at Torrens Valley, where it could temporarily reside.
But we needed a solution, there was no space to build a shed,
So we'd had a chat to Jannie, and this was what he said,
"We are happy for you to place your container where you enter,
But you will have to paint it, so it matches with our centre."
So the committee was agreeable, a container's what we need
And who could this negotiate, well a handy chap called Reed.
Graham went ahead off his own bat, to Wingfield he was bound,
And used some funds to buy a 20 foot container that he found

Not something old and dented, it was really spanking new
And when it was delivered, it was a shade of brilliant blue!
You could see it from a distance, it stood out like a sore thumb,
I could now see Jannie's wisdom, with painting soon to come.
But first there was the fit-out, for ventilation, slots and whirligigs,
And inside shelves, a mezzanine, to fit in all our rigs,
With might and main, our busy crew, put in the safety cabinet,
A welded frame to hold it, then the products were put in it,
And the shelves were put together, with bolts to make them stay,
And boxes, tools and other gear were neatly stacked away.

Now Bill our painting expert, our faith in him displayed
He reckoned just two hours a coat, the job done in two days.
He matched the colour from a chart, got ten litres straight from Bunnings
And with two other "experts", he hit the ground and running.
An early start, the rollers out, two-thirds blue remaining
Bloody Hell, you won't believe, it really started raining.
We waited under shelter, cursed the forecast which was wrong
Our mood was grim, but coffee helped, something hot and strong
You won't believe how bad it looked, paint washing in the gutter
With streaks of blue among the cream, 'Mutter, Mutter, Mutter'.

At last, the sky began to clear, and we set upon the task
Of starting out to get a coat, and yes, you can us ask
By end of day, we'd done the job, container now pale cream
And from a decent distance, a good job it would seem
And with some better weather, next day went really well
The second coat went like a dream, we thought it looked real swell,
The doors looked great, no signs of blue, and though it sounds ridiculous
The disappearance of this box was really quite miraculous,
When you stood off, and viewed the shed, you really won't believe
What an amazing disappearance act had surely been achieved.

Tim Smeaton
December 2020

FROM THE EDITOR

During the Covid lockdown last year, I generated when possible the Turnout newsletter twice monthly with the intension of keeping our members informed and in contact with the club.

Now that Northern Turners has resumed meetings, the Turnout newsletter will revert to a monthly edition.

COMMISSION REQUIRED

While manning the Burnside exhibition I received an enquiry for a commission for Penelope Hetzel.

She has a chopping board that she would like resurfaced.

In addition, she would like someone to make two articles.

Wooden hand mirror with handle

Make up mirror with 10x magnification

If anyone is interested please contact Penelope on 0419 495 498 or by email penelopehetzel@bigpond.com

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2nd and 3rd Saturday programs for 2021

2nd Saturday program

Bill Elliott has advised that the 2nd Saturday program will continue as before. Members are encouraged to come along and do their own thing. Bill and other experienced members will be present to help and answer any and all questions. If members request a specific demonstration Bill will review the request.

3rd Saturday program

Ron Allen and George Pastuch will also basically continue the same format as before, ie projects and techniques in the form of demonstrations and discussions.

The February event will be a Mystery Project demonstrated and members encouraged to subsequently make preferably during the day.

During this meeting, the following projects for the next few months will be decided.

OUR FIRST MEETING AT TORRENS VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Thank you to all members who participated in our meeting on January 23rd. It was a great introduction to our new home, and it gave members an opportunity to thank all those who had contributed to the significant effort required to make the move successful. The gentlemen who cooked the sausages and onions did an excellent job, and nearly all the salads from Pasta Deli disappeared.

Our program for the year will be much as before at GGHS, with 3 Saturdays per month committed to meetings. However, we are not constrained by the hours used, nor the number of Saturdays we meet. Therefore, if you have any good ideas for how we might extend some of the meetings, pass them on to a committee member. For example, we might have whole day sessions where there is a demonstration in the morning and a competition relating to that demonstration in the afternoon, with time to produce a quality product. Also, there may be a place for more 2-day workshops, with either local or interstate turners.



Thanks again for making it such a successful day.

Tim Smeaton

**PROGRAM FOR FOURTH SATURDAY MEETINGS
DEMONSTRATIONS IN 2021**

February 27	Tool Sharpening – turning tools, spade bits, Forstner bits: Bill Plane blades: Dale	Bill Elliott Dale Starr
March 27	Pens, knife handles, pendants, napkin rings, suggestions for Wayville demo (<i>multiple demos</i>)	Flora.Rumbelow , Chris Deguet, Graham Hawkins David Gilland
April 24	Using resin in wood-turning – showing the steps and equipment used.	Graham Reed, Franky Pastuch, Ed Zahra
May 22	Turning spheres Challenge to members to produce best sphere by June meeting	Ron Allen
June 26	Prize awarded for best sphere at Show and Tell Scroll sawing – demonstration by Southern Scrollers Followed by Biggest Morning Tea and Auction.	Franky Pastuch et al.
July 24	Christmas decorations, inverted turning	George Pastuch, Anne Kerr
August 28	Offset turning – bowls, spindle-turning	David Gilland, Bill Elliott
September 25	Finishing to exhibition standard, decoration etc * Competition as below	Graham Reed, + *Members
October 23*	AGM ? demo	
November 27	Metal inlay, combining metal with woo Judge competition*	J.Todd, P.Page, R.Humphris

Competition:* Members to take away similar pieces of wood at September meeting and return in October with a finished item – best effort wins a prize!

TEACHING WOODWORK in the 1960's

During the Covid19 period shutdown, I decided to do some down-sizing of my 'stuff', during which I rediscovered the old Woodwork textbook "Educational Woodwork" for Teachers and Pupils – 1961 Edition. Many of you might remember the book, hopefully with good feelings.

However, I was taken with some of the past exam papers included in the text and appreciated the depth of study required in those days. Looking at the 1955 paper for example, the exam was in two parts, Theory and Practical. The Theory paper was of two hours duration and included a drawing section as well as written answers. Students were provided with an isometric drawing and were expected to produce an orthographic projection (working drawing). In retrospect it seems a little demanding.

Some examples to wet your appetite –

Qu 3 Write a short essay on Forestry in South Australia with special reference to the following:-

- Natural timber resources.
- Species tried during the early years of afforestation.
- The most successful tree.
- The first permanent large timber mill.
- Use of the Timber
- Plans for the future

Qu 5 Make a neat sketch of a ratchet brace.

- Use lines with arrowheads to clearly indicate the parts and name them.
- Include a detailed sketch of the chuck, name the parts, and explain how they operate when gripping and releasing a bit.

Also 3 other questions

The Practical exam was three hours long and the drawing is attached. I think that many adults today would be daunted by the prospect of reading, interpreting and making the exam in three hours. As the instructions state machines, files, abrasive paper etc is not to be used. What is not explained is the fact that the wood supplied is off the saw and has to be dressed by hand plane, including end grain. All to be assessed for accuracy including flatness

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and squareness.

I went to a Technical School as a student experiencing both woodwork and metalwork, and all assessment was internal. High Schools in those days only taught woodwork and the exams were publicly examined (PEB). All pieces were collected, bundled up and sent to Adelaide for marking.

I taught Woodwork at Minlaton High School in the mid-sixties. I had two classes of Intermediate woodwork (Third Year). However, one class consisted of those doing Latin and they had to complete the course by the end of Second Year so had a pressure cooker type course. Boys only in those days. So, most of them were only 14 years old if doing Latin and 15 if not.

They all seemed to enjoy the experience even the Latin students with their reduced time.

One amusing incident sticks in my mind. After a practical exam, one student passed up his work with blood everywhere. When I asked him Why he replied "I thought I might get some sympathy from the markers".

In about 1968 things changed for the better. The subject became internally planned and assessed and for the first time Fourth year woodwork became a option. When I think back, it seems as though the boys were better motivated with a set syllabus and continual set tasks. Later courses with more emphasis on students planning their own projects seems to have more difficulty for most. Perhaps knowing what was expected creates more comfort.

How did you fare in deciphering the joints in the practical exam?

Ron Allen

PRACTICAL 1955

Time : 3 hours

Construct the model illustrated, working to the dimensions shown.

The use of glue, nails, scrapers, rasps, files, or glasspaper is not permitted.

If a piece of material is spoiled, another may be obtained from the supervisor, but every piece must be forwarded to the examiner.

Credit will be given for—

- (a) accuracy of work, and
- (b) the stage of completion reached.

Timber required—

Medium hardwood—one piece 3ft. X 2in. X 7/8 in.

