

TURNOUT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NORTHERN TURNERS INC.

VOL10 No.08
August 2021

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT August 2021

Dear members

We have had a very successful month with no lockdowns fortunately. I attended the 2nd Saturday and was very pleased to see everyone wearing masks. A straw poll established that practically all the older members had had at least one vaccination, with about half fully vaccinated. Two younger members who had not been eligible intended to get vaccinated soon. If we have more than 90% of our membership fully vaccinated in the near future, then we would have good “herd immunity” which protects all of us from serious illness. Well done all of you.

Our equipment was tagged and tested by Tristan Winen and although we are still operating on a 6-month schedule, we are trying to get a written assessment from SafeWorkSA which will allow us to go to a 12-month schedule.

Northern Turners has purchased a defibrillator, with a pair of CPR masks, and it is mounted on the wall of the tech centre with a plaque (kindly made by Neptune Tang of TVCS) recognizing the contribution of the Tea Tree Gully Council. At the meeting on September 25, Graeme Aistrop showed members how the defibrillator gives instructions by voice, enabling almost anyone to “have a go” if a member were unlucky enough to have a cardiac arrest. We hope we never need it, but if it saves the life of a member, it will be money well spent.

Two demonstrations were given at that meeting, the first by Bill Elliot who, in his inimitable style showed how to make pendants with a simple home-made jig made from a square block of pine. David Gilland followed with an off-set vase, using careful measurement of 60 degree offsets to make a three-sided hollow form. Thank you gentlemen for two great demonstrations.

Nik Surikov has prepared a sheet where members can list their “other skills” which may be helpful to other members. Such skills as accounting, welding, medical etc could be included. If recompense is required, that can be written in.

I would like to have volunteers for assistants to the Treasurer, Secretary and Editor so that we have back-up for these positions. If any members are willing to take on these roles, would they please contact the current incumbent and offer their services.

Also, although I am happy to nominate for President for 2021-22, I will not continue in the role beyond that year. If a member would like to take over the Presidency in 2022, I would recommend they join the committee during next year to “learn the ropes”.

Note some changes to the demonstration schedule elsewhere in this issue of Turnout.

Stay well and keep up your “pursuit of excellence” in wood-turning.

Tim Smeaton

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@northernturners.org.au

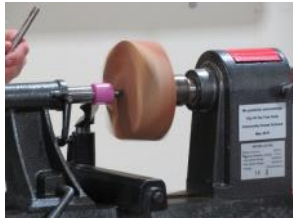
Your Northern Turners

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

3rd Saturday August Demonstration

Ron Allen—Pot Pourri Bowl

Ron used a screw face plate to mount the blank. There are a number of different methods to mount blanks.



As the blank may be unbalanced, bring up the tailstock and live centre to provide support and provide added safety.



Turn the face of the blank straight by using either a push cut or a pull cut. Move the tool support and continue to turn the edge of the blank until smooth and round.



Mark the size of the foot on the face of the blank and turn the step for mounting in a scroll chuck. Clean up the area adjacent to the foot. Ron uses a detail gouge laid over on its side.

Ron adds another step where he cuts out an area he inserts a disc with his details etc.



Using a bowl gouge shape the bottom of the bowl. As a final cut, Ron uses a skew chisel on its side as a scraper. NOTE: When using a scraper ensure the tool is positioned in a downward angle and always cut at the centre line of the blank.



Using a bowl gouge turn the curved underside of the bowl. Sand smooth. Ron uses a rotary sanding device as seen in the photo.



Remove the piece from the screw chuck and mount using a scroll chuck. Cut across the face to a flat surface.



Measure the diameter of the pot pourri insert and mark the blank accordingly. Ron prefers a slightly tight fit but less than a jam fit.

When satisfied with the fit begin to hollow out the bowl.



Ron used an arm brace with an exchangeable front piece with a goose neck and a straight bar with a 6mm 6mm cutter as shown.



Next shape the top of the pot pourri bowl. Ron added some texturing also to the top. Sand and remove from the chuck.

Photos and description by George Pastuch

Minutes—General meeting

Meeting started at 10:05

Attending: approximately 50 members

Apologies: Brian Frazer, Ken Allen, Lindsay Winen, Bob Bauze, Robert Edge

Website: Gordon Best reported that there have been some teething problems with our new website which are gradually being sorted out.

Library: Tim asked members to consider taking over the running of the library so that Anne Kerr can relinquish her post after many years of service. Anne said that the task is quite easy and she is happy to talk it over with anyone who is interested.

Exhibition: Graham Reed reported that the exhibition in October is still planned to go ahead, but of course this could change at a moment's notice.

Skills List: if you have a skill useful to other members (i.e accounting, electrical work, welding ...) and are willing to do jobs for members, please put your name on the sheet at the entrance, including whether or not you would want to be paid (either money or wine/beer).

Turning Smocks: Tim asked if any members would be interested in a bulk buy of turning smocks. A number of members showed interest so this will be arranged in due course.

Bandsaw blades: Bill Elliott has obtained a price for a roll of bandsaw blade. Tim asked if members are interested in purchasing a roll and holding a workshop to make blades for member's equipment. Quite a number of hands were raised so the club will purchase a roll and arrange a workshop. The blades are 12mm, 4TPI and will cost about \$3.50/metre.

Defibrillator: Tim showed members the defibrillator the club has recently purchased, partially funded by a grant from the Tea Tree Gully Council. Graeme Aistrophe then gave a short talk on what to do if a member experiences cardiac arrest.

Show & Tell

Presented by Dale Starr

There were a number of potpourris shown as a result of a recent demonstration. These were shown by Russel Dahms, Peter Smith, Chris Deguet, Gil Hartwig, Gordon Best, Lynn Warneke, Ed Zahra and Barry Brinkley. It is good to see so many members making items after watching a demo.

Vic Damato brought a lamp holder and a couple of small bowls.

Peter Smith showed a carved shape from red gum.

Chris Deguet brought two apples.

Keith Lane showed a salt & pepper grinder set from plunket gum as well as a small bowl from the same timber.

John Campbell had a couple of red gum bowls and another bowl.

David Rose brought a large mortar and pestle, as well as two anchor-shaped clocks.

Peter Page showed a number of tiny bird house ornaments as well as a large bird house as a wind chime.

Gil Hartwig brought a large open segmentation bowl.

Graham Vawser showed a lidded box made from sassafras which contained a wooden sphere.

Gordon Best had a home-made texturing tool.

Dale Starr showed an off-centre lidded hollow form turned from the leg of an old desk.

George Pastuch brought a 4-sided bowl, three stained and limed bowls and a banksia nut and resin egg.

Ed Zahra brought a chalice, a natural edged oak bowl and a small red gum plate.

The halo (in absentia, since Dale forgot to bring it in) was presented to Graham Vawser.

Tim Smeaton then named Lynne Warneke as halo runner up.



Fourth Saturday Demonstrations – thank you gentlemen for 2 excellent productions.

Bill Elliot – How to make a pendant using an off-set jig.

Bill showed how he makes his beautiful pendants, some of them combining resin with wood. A simple jig can be made from a square piece of pine. Cut a foot to mount the block securely in a 4-jaw chuck and bore a hole suited to a mounting screw offset about 12mm. With a gouge make a clean face to mount the pendant blank. The blank is finished on the underside before mounting with hot melt glue.

Using a sharp gouge, the outer surface of the pendant is shaped and sanded. Then the block is taken off the chuck and the mounting screw secured in the centre of the chuck. The off-set hole is then used to fit the block on to the chuck. Leaving the block square means it can be tightened securely by hand. Using a pencil, the off-set can be checked so there is enough wood at the side of the pendant. Then a chamfered hole is made with a small gouge, approximately 1-1.5cm diameter and sanded to ensure a smooth edge on both the inner and outer surface.

For final finishing, the jig can be returned to the central position, and the pendant finished with sanding. If resin is used, or with hard close-grained wood, sanding can be done wet with grades up to 1500. Brasso gives a final finish to resin pendants.

Bill buys strings which are looped through the pendant ready for sale.



Dave Gilland—how he turns two, three or four sided shapes.

First, turn the piece round.

Dave then explained how to mark the piece for a three-sided item. A circle is drawn with the compass at the centre. This circle needs to be far enough in from the edge of the cylinder to accommodate the tool you will be using to hold the piece in the headstock. The

compass is then used (without changing) to mark six points around the circumference. Draw a line from the centre to every second point and it will divide the circle into three equal pieces (i.e. 120°).

Next, place the compass point where one of the lines from the centre meets one of the three 120° points and set it to draw an arc to maximise the size which will be left at the large end of the piece. Repeat drawing an arc from the other two points on the circle.

If you are making a shape with no twist, draw a line along the cylinder, using the tool rest as reference. This line should be drawn to meet one of the lines drawn on the end. The other end is then divided



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in three in the same way.

If you want the other end to be smaller, the circle will be drawn smaller.

Place the large end at the tailstock with the drive point in one of the three points on the circle and the point of the tailstock in corresponding point on the other end. Rotate the piece by hand to set the tool rest.

Start turning from the centre of the cylinder towards the tailstock, changing the position of the tool rest as you go to keep it parallel with the cylinder (this is important to get a straight edge on the piece). Keep turning until you reach the marked arc on both ends.

Repeat for the other two sides.

Place the piece on centre and turn a tenon on the end which will be the base (sized for your chuck jaws).

Place the piece in the chuck and hollow using a Forstner bit.

The top is finished off. Note the scalloped edge which develops.



David Gilland's pieces to show variations in off-set turning

Competition for September 25th

As outlined at the August meeting, there will be a competition at the September general meeting which will replace the other competition proposed in the original list of demonstrations.

Up to 14 members can participate, using the club and school lathes. If necessary, members may be able to share a lathe to increase the numbers.

Participants will be given a piece of timber, approximately 75mm square, either red gum or another eucalypt (courtesy of David Gilland). The aim is to produce something original during the meeting! I imagine we might see elegant vases, or a number of small boxes, or something out of left field. Your imagination knows no limits.

There will be prizes for the best products which do not have to be completed on the day, but must show enough detail to show the judges what the finished product will be like.

The unfinished pieces can be taken home and finished off. They are to be returned at the October AGM for further judging, and further prizes!!

The timber can be cut into smaller lengths if required, using the bandsaw under Bill Elliot's eagle eye.

I hope you have a lot of fun and make heaps of shavings. Remember to wear masks and protect your head with a face-shield or at least safety glasses. Unfortunately I will not be there, but can see your finished products in October.

Cheers

Tim Smeaton

3rd SATURDAY PROGRAM FOR 2021

Please remember - we do not have to finish by 2pm

September Demonstrator George Pastuch

Ball/Sphere clock

Blank— 90mm long x 80mm dia. No knots. Any decorative timber
35 mm clock insert available from Carbatec or online from Carrolls Crafts and others.

October Demonstrator George Pastuch

Mushroom Box

Blank - 170mm long x 79 to 90mm dia branch with/without bark
attached. Preferably with hard bark intact.
Jam chuck process will be demonstrated

November Demonstrator Ron Allen

Involuted turning. A Christmas mystery project.

Ron will purchase and prepare timber and members can purchase same. (Inexpensive - probably less than \$2 each).
Super glue and Activator.

PROGRAM FOR FOURTH SATURDAY MEETINGS
DEMONSTRATIONS IN 2021

September 25	* Competition as described previously	
October 23*	AGM	
November 27	Metal inlay, combining metal with wood	J.Todd, P.Page, R.Humphris

THE BUDHI BUDHI TREE (*Ficus religiosa* or **sacred fig**)

Before COVID while travelling in Vietnam I was taken by the unusual branches of this tree and its exquisite flowers. The plaque advised me that it was a sacred Budhi Budhi tree.

Ficus religiosa or **sacred fig** is a species of fig native to the Indian subcontinent and Indochina that belongs to Moraceae, the fig or mulberry family.

According to Wikipedia it is a large dry season-deciduous or semi-evergreen tree up to 30 metres tall and has a very long lifespan, ranging on average between 900 and 1,500 years.

Unfortunately the *Ficus religiosa* has been listed as an "environmental weed" or "naturalised weed" as it rings the stems of support trees from the outside and their roots penetrate inside the stem of the support, eventually splitting it from within.

The major reasons for its invasive behaviour are its fast-growing nature, tolerance to various climate zones and soil types, reported lifespan of over 3,000 years, and its suffocating growth habit as it often begins life as an epiphyte.

Franky Pastuch

