

TURNOUT

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NORTHERN TURNERS INC.

President's report for November 2021

Northern Turners has had a very successful month with activities on all 4 Saturdays. The usual turning for the 2nd Saturday was brought forward by a week, as usual supervised by Bill Elliot. Then, on the 2nd Saturday a very successful workshop was organized by Tim Skilton and Robert Edge, with Bill Elliot and Simon Bagshaw (from Southern Turners) as demonstrators. The 3rd Saturday saw Ron Allen showing how to make attractive Christmas decorations, and at the general meeting on Nov 27th, Jeff Todd, Peter Page and Roger Humphries combined to demonstrate the use of metals in conjunction with wood-turning. Some very interesting insights about the vagaries of aluminium in particular.

The committee agreed to the purchase of some new equipment, supported by the members present. After discussion with the technical staff of TVCS, Northern Turners has permission to use the projector and screen in the technical centre. This will allow much better viewing for demonstrations. Robert Edge has researched the equipment needed – upgrade of laptop, cameras, a box with HDMI, USB inputs and outputs, microphones, etc. Also, a new lathe and associated gear will be purchased for demonstrations only. The total budget is approximately \$6000.

To clarify the reason for the latter purchase: for the past 15 years, Tim Skilton has transported his own personal lathe to and from his home for the annual workshop. This not only risks damage to the lathe, but there is also a risk of serious injury to Tim or his helpers. Therefore, the club will have its own lathe on the premises, and it will be fitted with a stand and wheels which expedite moving it to and from the container.

With the dissolution of WoodgroupSA, there is good reason for NT to liaise with other clubs. I would like to see more demonstrations from members of other local clubs, just as some of our members have given demonstrations to these clubs. Having a quality lathe and IT equipment will enhance the quality of these events.

In December, NT will be hosting 3 Saturdays. The first Saturday will be Ron Allen's egg demonstration, the second Saturday will be run by Bill Elliot, and we will be open for the third Saturday either for free turning or a demonstration by George Pastuch if he is available.

Finally, concerning vaccination status for Covid-19. As members will now be aware, all visitors to TVCS must be fully vaccinated. In order to comply, everyone who attends our meetings must have established their vaccination status with David Kleinig, the treasurer. Each vaccination certificate has a unique documentation number. This number will be recorded against each member's name. In this way, NT does not keep a record of anyone's personal data. However, the club will have documentation to show that we are complying with the regulation established by the Education Department. The official deadline is December 10th, but some flexibility will be needed.

Thank you all for your contributions to the last few weeks, and have a great Christmas.

Cheers. Tim Smeaton

Northern Turners Committee	2021/22
President	Tim Smeaton
Secretary	Dale Starr
Treasurer	David Kleinig
Vice President	Bill Elliott
Member	Rob Williams
Member	Guido Guidi
Member	Fred McCann
Member	Nik Surikov,
Member	Graham Reed
Member	Flora Rumbelow

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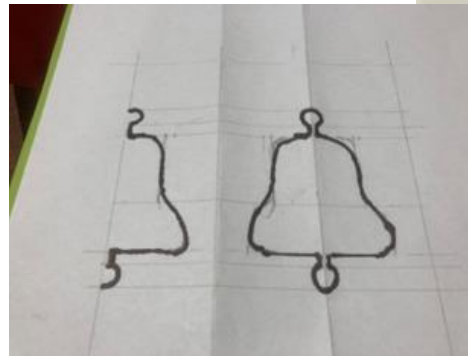
turnout@northernturners.org.au

Your Northern Turners

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

Ron Allen's Preamble prior to the 3rd Saturday Demonstration

As a follow-up to George Pastuch's demonstration of "gizmos", Ron showed one way of holding 4 identical pieces for inverted turning, to avoid use of glue or tape, was to make up 2 square holes into which the wood was mounted between centres (see picture right)



To help explain achieving required insert shapes when conducting inverted turning projects, Ron provided an example. To achieve the desired internal shape, draw the shape, crease and fold the diagram along the centre axis. The remaining is the shape to be turned initially. The above diagrams might help.

DEMONSTRATION—XMAS TREE DECORATION by Ron Allen

Ron initially talked about various methods to mount pieces in the lathe. With this demonstration he decided to not use scroll chucks to show alternate methods. He also talked about alternate methods to hold pieces for inverted turning and also how to draw up a guide for involuted turning.

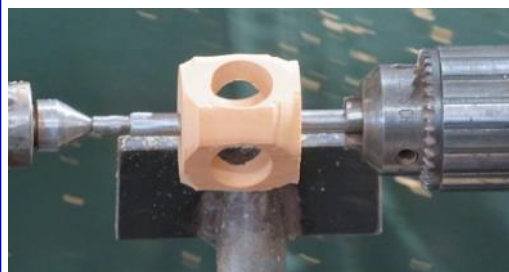
Ron's Christmas bauble is made in three pieces, top finial, centre ball and bottom finial.



The first was the centre ball. The timber used was a 50mm cube of Huon Pine. The centre in all faces is marked. To better explain the hole positions on the cube. Imagine mounting the cube between centres with the grain running horizontally. The four faces are drilled with a 25mm forstner bit. The two ends with end grain is drilled to the diameter that will hold the piece in the lathe. Ron was going to use an old pen style mandrel.



The piece is mounted using a Jacobs chuck with the mandrel.



Begin turning the all. Remove the edges first to stop the edges splitting away.

Continue turning until a ball shape is achieved. Both ends will have a small flat area where it is being held. Sand through the grades and remove.



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Ron roughly sanded the piece of Western Myall and inserted into the centre of the head stock. Tap with a hammer to secure the piece.



Turn a channel for the top finial to the diameter of the hole in the centre ball.

Start to shape the finial.



If you are going to insert a brass eye-bolt into the end of the top finial, drill the hole before turning to small a diaiter and thread the eyebolt. This should eliminate splitting the finial when fitting the eye-bolt later. Finish shaping the finial, sand, part off and insert the eye bolt.

Repeat the process with the bottom finial.

When all three pieces are completed glue them together. Ron showed an additional item of a miniature Christmas tree inside the centre ball. This is turned separately and inserted through the side holes as a final assembly.

George Pastuch



PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER 2021

4th December—Demonstration by Ron Allen—Eggs—details to be forwarded

11th December—normal 2nd Saturday activities with Bill Elliott

18th December—Demonstration by George Pastuch—Slim-line pens—mechanisms and timber will be available for sale.

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO CHRISTMAS BREAKUP BBQ

PROGRAM FOR JANUARY 2022

8th January —normal 2nd Saturday activities with Bill Elliott

15th January—Mystery demonstration by Ron Allen

22nd January—TBA

Tony Mercorella Tasmanian Premier's Award

Tony Mercorella, a Northern Turner member recently returned from Tasmania where he attended the Deloraine Craft Fair. He entered the Premier's Award with his Eiffel Chair and subsequently won the award. Attached is an image of the chair and some other pictures of other work.



A copy of the attached descriptor.

A trip to Paris and climbing the Eiffel Tower inspired the design of 'The Eiffel Chair'. Simple yet stylish, this chair features curved lines contoured to the body, with an upholstered seat for a comfort finish. Tasmanian Black Heart Sassafras veneer was chosen to resonate with the statuesque design of the iconic Parisian structure

Below three other pieces of Tony's



4th Saturday Demonstrations

THE USE METALS WITH WOODTURNING

Jeff Todd

Showing several of the pieces he has made using aluminium to decorate his turned work, Jeff discussed the tricks of working with this metal.

One of his ways of decorating was to use a coin – NOT an Australian one – as seen on one of the pieces below. A ball bearing could also be pressed into a brass “ferrule”.

Aluminium is annealed quite differently from steel. First, use a candle to coat the surface of an aluminium rod with carbon. Then use a blow-torch very carefully to warm the surface until the carbon disappears. The aluminium rod can now be bent by hand, and remains in that form for some time. To shape it, use a wooden form for the shape and bend the flexible rod into the shape required, e.g., a coil. After a few days, the metal becomes harder again so the coil will retain its shape.

One of the difficulties with combining wood with metal is that wood dries out and moves with time. A couple of pieces made about two years ago had actually fallen apart!



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Polishing aluminium can be done with Brasso or other abrasives. It can also be turned, but with care. A delicate touch is best and beware of shavings.

To fill cracks, aluminium powder or shavings can be poured into cracks and then the crack filled with superglue or epoxy.

A very interesting talk and we now know a lot more about non-ferrous metals. The pictures below show some of Jeff's techniques and some of his work.



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Peter Page and Roger Humphris

Decorating with pewter

Roger first said how to get your pewter – go to Op Shops and buy old tankards for a dollar or two!

Peter then cut a dove-tail groove in the top of a bowl blank which had been shaped on the outside, but not hollowed out. Then several holes were drilled in the groove. The dove-tail shape prevents pewter from falling out, and the holes prevent it from spinning later in the process of finishing.

The pewter was melted over a blow-torch – it can be cut into small pieces with tin-snips – in a ladle (also available from Op Shops) and then poured into the groove. Make sure you have enough to fill the groove – better too much than too little.

When the pewter has completely cooled, the excess can be turned off and the bowl finished. Pewter is relatively soft and can be turned with several tools, but fine cuts are needed.

Roger dug among his treasures and showed how even lace bobbins can be turned from aluminium!



A very interesting demonstration and I hope we see more use of pewter by members.

Tim Smeaton

LIBRARY BOOK REVIEW

Woodturning design – turning inspiration into form.

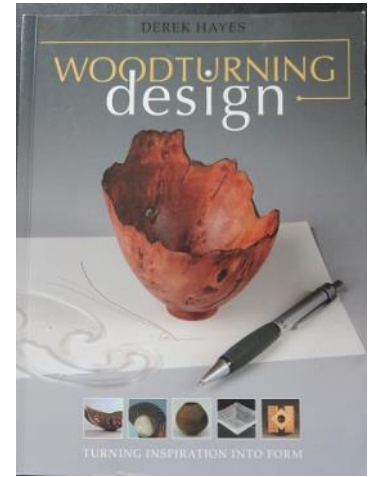
Author – Derek Hayes

In this inspiring book, Derek Hayes investigates the process and practice of design in woodturning. Design is rarely a priority for the beginner woodturner and most turners in their early work begin by concentrating on technique rather than shape or form, which can prove counter-productive.

Each chapter starts with a photographic example of what Derek sees as good design in a medium other than woodturning. The pieces are not deconstructed to justify his choice but to serve as a reminder to the turner.

From the editor – Working my way through the book I found Derek Hayes focusses on the design and not how to turn a specific piece. In the first half of the book he concentrates on design theory. This involves proportions and patterns of open and closed forms, feet and rims. He believes in drawing and sketching the piece before turning. The second half highlighting decoration and colour, I found more interesting but heavy going. If you are interested in knowing about symmetry, the golden rule, golden ellipse, rule of thirds, geometric shapes, catenaries, parabolas, hyperbolas, then this book is for you.

George Pastuch



Minutes of Northern Turners General Meeting Nov.27 2021

The meeting was presided by Tim Smeaton

Attendance: approximately 40 members

President:

Tim reminded members to scan the QR code upon entry.

New first aiders were needed. The club will pay the cost of training.

Ron Allen will give a demo on turning eggs on the 1st Sat of Dec. Bill will supervise the normal 2nd Sat and George Pastuch and/or Tim Smeaton will supervise the 3rd Sat.

The committee has approved expenditure of up to \$6000 to purchase the following:

A new Vicmarc VL150 to be used only for demos and workshops, noting that Tim Skilton has let us use his lathe for the past 15 years.

New audio/visual equipment to allow us to use the school's projector, screen and speakers.

Upgrades to the club's old laptop to allow recording of demos.

The committee authorised up to \$6000 to be spent on the above. Tim asked the membership for approval by show of hands. The motion was overwhelmingly approved.

Tim told members that the school requires all visitors to be double vaccinated for Covid after Dec.10. The club must view each member's certificate (obtained from the MyGov website) and we will then record only the unique document number.

Any other visitors or demonstrators will have to produce their Covid certificate to allow entry.

Tim noted that Tony Mercorella recently received the Tasmanian premier's award for furniture at a recent exhibition.

Burnside Exhibition: Graham Reed said that there are 25 entries and that the supervision roster is full.

Treasurer's Report: the club had a total of \$31326 in the bank at the end of Oct.

Lathe Maintenance: Jeff Todd was thanked for the work he does. Tim told members that Steve Johnson (formerly of Woodfast) will hopefully give us a talk on lathe maintenance and safety in January.

AoB:

Gill Hartwig told members to be very aware of cyber crime since he had recently been affected by this crime. The police hold him that hundreds of people per day were being scammed.

David Hough told members that camphor laurel is available for purchase from Ken on 0457377604 (formerly of the SA Wood Carving Academy which is closing).

Show & Tell presented by Peter Hudson

Peter Hudson showed a large bowl made from an unknown eucalypt

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Ian Steer had a small olive natural edged bowl, a lidded box and small plate from robinia and a lidded box from Oregon

Alan Burgess showed a sassafras chalice

The following members showed Christmas ornaments following on from recent demonstrations by Ron Allen and George Pastuch:

Alan Burgess

Jan Beare

Chris Deguet

Ed Zahra

Hal Sneddon

George

Bill Elliott showed the completed red gum bowl he turned as part of our recent workshop.

The halo was presented to George Pastuch for one of his Christmas ornaments.

