

TURNOUT

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NORTHERN TURNERS INC.

Hello from El Presidente

I started formulating this message on the ANZAC weekend and will continue on that theme. So if you can excuse me for waxing a little lyrical I would appreciate it.

As noted in my verbal report on Saturday the 26th, I am aware we have a number of ex-service personnel included in our membership and on behalf of all of us I thank you for your service.

My family has been touched by the loss of someone as a result of armed conflict and I have seen the pain such a loss causes. As such, I firmly believe that we owe a debt of gratitude to all who have and continue to serve, without whom we would not be living in such a wonderful country with all the freedoms and privilege this holds.

There are others in our community who serve in other ways, all the first responders we rely upon in our times of need, together with those who volunteer with organisations such as the SES and CFS. In a different fashion these people also engender the ANZAC spirit of standing by and with your mates when needed. So I extend my thanks to them as well.

I trust our club is not just a place to meet with like minded folk, but also a place where we all feel safe and valued. Enough on that subject.

BIGGEST MORNING TEA

As you will hopefully be aware, on Saturday May 24 we will again be conducting our biggest morning tea to raise funds for the Cancer Council of SA. I have included a schedule for the day and hope to see as many of you as possible there. Please note that partners and better halves are more than welcome to come along. Our \$5.00 entry for the day will be included in our contribution, but it is just a starting point so bring along your hard earned and be prepared to part with as much as can be spared for this extremely worthy cause.

Order of Activities:

9:00am to 10:00am Committee Meeting

10:00am to 10:30am Presidents Report to Members Present

Between 10:30am and 11:00am, morning tea including the sweets provided by members.

“Show and Tell” will follow the morning tea, so bring along any pieces you wish to display.

Live Auction. Conducted by your president while the sausages are sizzling. Remember to register and obtain your bidders number if you intend to participate.

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Northern Turners Committee		2024/25
President		Davis Wills
Secretary		Dale Starr
Treasurer		Vic Damato
Vice President		Stuart Hunnisett
Member		Rob Williams
Member		Ed Zahra
Member		David Kleinig
Member		Nik Surikov,
Member		Peter Smith
Member		Flora Rumbelow

Send all articles to

turnout@northernturners.org.au

Your Northern Turners

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

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Sausage Sizzle and Salad lunch break.

Finally the results and winning bidders of the “Silent Auction” will be announced.

Please note;

Partners and better halves are MORE than welcome!!

We hope this years morning tea will be as successful and enjoyable as those of the past, so remember to bring ALL your pocket money, loose change, folding stuff, credit and debit cards, together with a healthy dose of charitable enthusiasm.

For those who are donating goods (either for the silent or live auctions) we would ask that you submit these for display PRIOR to 10:00am. Finally, the committee and organisers look forward to seeing you all there!!

Regards and thanks,

Dave Wills on behalf of the organisers and committee.

Minutes of Northern Turners General Meeting April 26 2025

Apologies: Dale Starr, Rob Williams, Peter Smith, George Pastuch and Gavin Pink.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00am presided by the president Dave Wills

Secretary's Report: As Dale Starr was away no secretary's report was tabled.

Treasurers Report: The bank balance at the end of March was \$37357.36

Exhibition Committee: No report tabled.

Website: No report tabled.

From the President: • Dave opened his address to the members present with a message regarding ANZAC day and recognised those in the club who had served, together with their families who support them in what might sometimes be extremely difficult circumstances. He noted that he hoped the club was not just a place to gather and share in social contact, but that it might also be a place where people could “heal” the scars of hardship and loss in some small way. •

Dave advised the SOP sheets for all equipment had been updated and attached to the individual machines. He urged members to read these prior to operating. In addition Dave advised members to check the “test and tag” tickets attached to the power cables of club equipment. •

The order for new club shirts and mugs has been placed by Graham Reed. At this point an ETA is uncertain. •

Dave confirmed the 2 day workshop with Neil Turner had been scheduled and confirmed for the weekend of 11 and 12 October this year. •

A mention of thanks was given to Vic Damato and Jeff Todd for sourcing and procuring a new bench grinder for the club.

In addition Jeff was commended for his ongoing work in maintaining the club lathes and working through safety issues with the start/stop process for a number of these.

Dave advised the clubs subscription for advertising events and exhibitions had been renewed. •

Dave noted he was pleased with the numbers in attendance of the last few meetings and in particular the fact that people were availing themselves of the lathes on offer and thanked Ron Allen for once again providing an interesting demonstration on the second meeting of the month. •

Finally Dave reminded those present that the club would once again be hosting a “Biggest Morning Tea” to raise funds for the Cancer Council of SA on Saturday May 24th (what would normally be our fourth Saturday meeting). Dave noted that partners were more than welcome to attend and join in the fun. As usual there would be a silent and “live” auction on the day and Dave promised something a little different would be included

SHOW AND TELL



John was awarded the Halo for his Burl bowl, finished with Danish Oil.

Welcome new member—Marie Pearson



Trees 'n' Timber

STRINGYBARK

Messmate Stringybark, Australian Oak (*Eucalyptus obliqua*) Derivation of names *Eucalyptus* from Greek 'eu', and 'kalyptos' meaning well covered and referring to the cap (operculum) which covers and protects the bud.

Obliqua – refers to the oblique base of the leaves. Other names Australian Oak is the standard trade name. However this is confusing, as Australian Oak is also the standard trade name of Mountain Ash (*Euc. regnans*) and Alpine Ash (*Euc. delegatensis*). Other names include Tasmanian Oak or Ash and Victorian Oak or Ash.

The tree ranges from a scrubby tree to a few metres high in poor soils on Kangaroo Island, to a giant exceeding 80 metres high in temperate rain forests. In the rain forest it grows very quickly with a very straight even trunk. In the Mt Lofty Ranges it grows to about 40 metres, often with a more spreading form. The tree is easily identified by its rough fibrous bark which is throughout the tree. This bark is very resistant to fires, and stringybarks are one of the first trees to recover from bushfire.

The fruits are small barrel shaped 'gum nuts', often in clusters of up to 15.

Habitat is in South Australia, Kangaroo Is, Mt Lofty Ranges and in the south-east. Also in southern Victoria, Tasmania and coastal mountain ranges in New South Wales Timber. Stringybark is one of the most important hardwoods in Australia. It varies in colour from pale yellowish brown to a pinkish brown. It has a pronounced growth ring figure.

The term Oak comes from the similarity of colour and figure to back sawn boards of English Oak, although it lacks completely any of the medullary ray figure of the Oaks. The timber is usually straight grained, of moderate hardness and strength and is easily worked glued and stained. Density is about 830 Kg per cubic metre. It is in great demand for the pulp industry, floorboards, weather boards, panelling and building construction.

Ron Allan

Published Feb 2003 Woodgroup Newsletter



HISTORY

During the most recent ice age, Tasmania and the mainland were connected by a land bridge that subsequently disappeared under Bass Strait. The populations of *E. obliqua* in Victoria and Tasmania were then connected but in the 10,000 years since they have been separated by the strait, the individual trees growing on the mainland have retained a lignotuber, while those in Tasmania did not. This reflects the better growing conditions in Tasmania for messmate stringybark, and less need or stress adaptations.

L'Heritier named the specimen *Eucalyptus obliqua*, and so messmate stringybark is the first named and now type specimen for all *Eucalyptus* species. Gum trees had been seen and collected on earlier expeditions, but a specimen collected on James Cook's third expedition to Bruny Island off the Tasmanian coast was sent to the British Museum, where the French botanist Charles Louis L'Heritier de Brutelle named it and then published it in 1788.

Ref: [www.https://theconversation.com/stringybark-is-tough-as-boots-and-gave-us-the-word-eucalyptus-100528](https://theconversation.com/stringybark-is-tough-as-boots-and-gave-us-the-word-eucalyptus-100528)

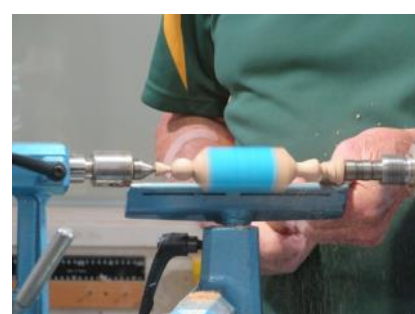
3rd SATURDAY DEMONSTRATION

RON ALLEN—DOOR STOP

Ron initially explained the method that he would be using for the demonstration. Two pieces of timber were cut diagonally half way along both pieces and taped together. He said that the two would not pull apart while turning and the masking tape would hold.

Using a cup center in the tail stock, Ron mounted the two taped blanks between centres. Marking the required scrap timber at both ends, both ends were turned to cylinders. The scrap timber at both ends allowed room to turn the required shapes. Before removing from the lathe, sand both turned ends as required taking care not to catch fingers.

Next remove from the lathe, break off or cut/saw the scrap of each end and sand the remaining spigots. Remove the tape and admire the two finished door stops.



FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS 4TH SATURDAY 2025

May 24th	NONE—BIGGEST MORNING TEA	
June 28th	Using the lathe as a grinder and polisher	Ed Noah
July 26th	Sputnik sea urchin ornament and stand	Dale Starr

MAY 3rd SATURDAY DEMONSTRATION

BRANCH BOWL—George Pastuch

Material—Branch material cut lengthwise in halves. Length is dependent on the diameter of the branch. A guide is the length should be no more than twice the diameter. As we will be using mini lathes, keep the diameter around 100 mm.

Bark may be left only if tight and will not fly off.

Blank will be mounted on a screw chuck.

This demo is number 10 on the project list survey results

4th SATURDAY DEMONSTRATION

Tim Skilton—Whiskey Tumbler



Tim Skilton did an impromptu demonstration of turning a whiskey tumbler from English Oak.

He used a Storyboard to make repeatable sizes.



Maximum diameter 61mm. Overall height 82mm, turning point at 30mm from the base. Drill with Forstner bits to 65mm deep, starting with 20mm, then 30mm, then 45mm diameter bits. Tim's favourite brand is the Colt Maxicut Forstner bits from Germany, with their associated extension bars.



He used a curved-edge skew chisel to remove the internal centre hole produced by the Forstner bits.

The inside was sanded with 150 grit, 240 grit, and then 400 grit cloth-backed sandpaper wrapped over rubber, which was wrapped over a length of dowel (taking care to wrap in the correct direction – i.e. anti-clockwise, with dowel in hand).



And boiled the finished tumbler in bees' wax in a deep fryer for five minutes. Use a parting tool to separate the cup from the base timber. Then switch to a set of longnose jaws to reverse-mount the cup and tidy up the base using a small bowl gouge.

To produce the finished product.



(Reporter: Ed Zahra for Northern Turners TURNOUT.)