

TURNOUT

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NORTHERN TURNERS INC.

Hello from El Presidente

Friends, Countrymen (and Women), and my Fellow Turners. Lend me your ears (because mine are cold after Saturdays hair cut). I will start this message with a huge thanks to all who turned out to support Northern Turners Biggest Morning Tea. While we didn't manage to raise s much as last year, I am pleased to report that a grand total of \$1536.00 will be forwarded to the Cancer Council of SA as a result of our efforts on Saturday. Still on the subject, special mention to all who donated goods and timber on the day, together with the people who stepped up to help. The BBQ triplets, Nik, Vic and Piera. Our Auctioneer Tim, Robert Edge for making sure all the money was collected and those others who assisted in tagging the silent auction items. If I have left anyone out I apologise.

As reported on the day, our iPad used for the credit/debit payment system has decided it no longer wants talk to "Square". As such those in attendance approved the spend required to upgrade and hopefully future proof the hardware with Squares own POS system (similar to that which you would at retail outlets). I am pleased to advise that Robert Edge has completed this exercise and we are now operational again with what I am told, is a more user friendly system at a final cost to the club of \$1723.00. I have attached an image of the new unit in situ on the old stand. Thanks again to Robert for his efforts. As a club we are very fortunate to have people with the range of skill sets we need when things such as this occur

So that's about it from me this month other than to remind those who are exhibiting at Wayville that the cut off for entry is June 12.

Bar Code Stickers will be supplied on 14/06/2025 or at point of entry and must be applied to all entry pieces and their descriptor by the exhibitor. Refer to the Exhibition Conditions for all other conditions.

Cheers and Good Health,
Dave.



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*

Minutes of Northern Turners General Meeting May 24 2025

The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM with Dave Wills presiding

Apologies; Dale Starr, Ed Noah, Enzo Bronzi, Greg Steven's and Anne Kerr.

Secretary's Report; In the absence of Dale Starr, no report was tabled.

Treasurers Report; Balance of club funds as at the end of April was reported as retained earnings \$51529.38

Exhibition Committee; No report tabled.

Website; No report tabled.

From the President;

Dave invited Robert Edge to report on the issue being experienced with the clubs "Square" payment system and the best way forward in remedying the problem. Rob advised the members present of the estimated costs involved to purchase a dedicated "Square" point of sale tablet, together with an external wifi Dongle to accept the clubs Telstra SIM card. The estimated cost of between \$1700 and \$2000 was accepted and passed by the general membership in attendance.

Dave updated the members on the Neil Turner Workshop and several examples of the "flyer" for the event were made available to those in attendance. Once Dale Starr is back on deck each member will be provided with a copy via email.

Dave thanked all who had proved goods for the live auction at the meeting, together with those who had donated timber for the silent auction.

Tim Skilton addressed the prospect of hosting an extra-ordinary Saturday meeting to assist those interested in making a sanding system for their lathes and called for expressions of interest from those in attendance. The expected cost of this project was advised at approximately \$80.00.

Finally Dave advised of his idea of the "Presidents Cut" to raise funds for the Cancer Council of SA's B.M.T and asked people to pledge funds towards his head being shaved should the secret dollar amount be achieved.

Dave then declared the official proceedings finalised and invited those present to enjoy the morning tea and remainder of the days festivities.

BOOK REVIEW

TURNING BOXES with Richard Raffan

Australian edition first published in 1998 by Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd

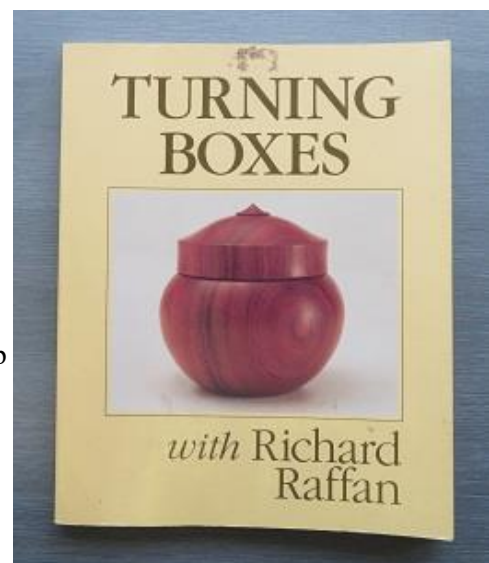
Richard Raffan reveals the tricks you need to know when turning boxes, from the cutting and seasoning of the wood to finishing the piece.

Raffan takes you through the stages of turning a successful box in detail, showing ways a to overcome the pitfalls and problems. He assesses design options and offers a host of forms to get you started, as well as a gallery of boxes to inspire you.

Editors Note: A very concise book which goes into great detail explaining tools, turning equipment and cutting and the preparation of blanks. Raffan highlights his own method of back hollowing. This may look easy but a skill that takes a lot of practice. He also uses the skew for numerous cuts. Again a skill that requires practice and an acceptance to have catches until the required skill level is achieved.

In summary, a very comprehensive book on turning boxes. A *how to* manual that requires analyzing and interpreting by a new turner on their turning adventure, where as an experienced turner may skip the basics highlighted in this book.

George Pastuch



SHOW AND TELL



The judge on this occasion was John Campbell.

Colin Slater showed a bowl of Tasmanian Murtle.

Dave Wills produced a cheese & cold meats board, a plate made from camphor laurel, and a dimple-designed lidded box.

Hal Sneddon showed two very thin green-turned pistachio wood bowls.

Stuart Hunnisett showed a lamp from redgum wood that was diverted from an otherwise short life in a fireplace.

Graham Reed produced a large natural-edge pistachio wood bowl.

Something different from Tim Smeaton was a turned moulding blank and the small model boat it was used to make.

Peter Page showed a heavy pistachio wood bowl.

Tim Skilton showed a dissected whisky tumbler, useful for assessing the symmetry and thickness of the work.

Lindsay Winen showed a large natural-edge pistachio wood bowl, an avocado wood bowl with a drilled holes design, and a large Australian white cedar bowl.

Finally, Gavin Pink showed a bowl made from walnut wood.

Hal Sneddon was awarded the Halo for the month.



Trees 'n' Timber

Blackheart Sassafras

Southern Sassafras

(*Atherosperma moschatum*)

Not to be confused with Yellow Sassafras (*Doryphora sassafras*) from the coastal rain forests of Eastern Aust.

Derivation of names

Sassafras – probably after the Laurels (*Sassafras* spp) of North America, having similar fragrance.

Atherosperma from Greek 'athere' (goat) and, 'sperma' (seed) referring to the bearded carpels or fruit.

moschatum – from Greek 'moschos' referring to the odour of the bark.

The Tree.

A small to medium sized tree, 10 to 25m high. When young, the trees are usually well formed, somewhat conical in shape with straight trunks. Older trees usually have open crowns. The outer bark is thin and often covered with lichens, while the inner bark is thick and is aromatic. The leaves are small (to 1cm long and opposite. They are dark green above and whitish below. The leaves have a nutmeg fragrance. It has small flowers and fruit.



Sassafras Flower

Habitat

Southern Sassafras is a widely distributed species in the cool temperate rain forests of Tasmania. There are also scattered distributions in the higher rainfall areas of Victoria and New South Wales.

Timber.

The sapwood is grey to pale brown. The heartwood is often darker with blackish streaks. This is the reason for its common name, Blackheart Sassafras, although during my research I could not find many references to this name. The grain is fairly straight, fine, even and smooth. It usually has no pronounced figure, although 'blackheart' provides streaks of striking and contrasting colour.

Southern Sassafras works easily and cleanly. It is a soft timber (490 to 529 kg/cu m), similar to radiata pine. It produces an excellent finish from a sharp plane, requiring very little sanding. It is an excellent timber for bending.

Blackheart Sassafras is much sought after for wood turning. It turns well, takes little sanding and produces a beautiful lustre with most finishes.

Ron Allen



Dec 2002 Woodgroup Newsletter

FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS 4TH SATURDAY 2025

June 28th	Using the lathe as a grinder and polisher	Ed Noah
July 26th	Sputnik sea urchin ornament and stand	Dale Starr
Aug 23rd	TBA	

FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS 3RD SATURDAY 2025

June 21st	TBA	Ron Allen
July 19th	Mushroom Box	George Pastuch
Aug 16th	TBA	Ron Allen

3rd Saturday Demonstration

George Pastuch—Winged Branch bowl

George began the session by explaining different methods to mount the blank on a lathe. His recommended methods were either a screw chuck with a hole drilled into the face, or a scrap piece of timber hot melt glued onto the face and a tenon turned to accommodate a scroll chuck. Restrictions apply when using a mini lathe due to smaller swing over the bed.

George proceeded to turn the base. Initially turning the foot, then using a pull cut method turning away the waste under the wings while turning the underside of the bowl. Sanding the bowl is per normal process, however the underside of the wings is predominately done with the lathe stopped.

After reversing the piece, the topside of the wings is done first. George again used the pull cut. He was then asked to turn a proud bead in the piece to line up with the bowl under the wing. The inside of the bowl is turned as per normal process. Sanding the piece to complete it.

George explained that the shape of the wings either upswept, down swept, straight etc is up to the individual, and the process is the same. He then displayed a few examples of completed winged bowls.



From the Editor:- I received an email advising the following event. This event is open to individuals but Northern Turner members may wish to go as a group. Details as follows:-

TURN SA

Turn SA 2025 will be held from Fri 15th Aug to Mon 18th Aug at Wescombes Shed Princes Highway Kingston SE

Registration Please register by 31st July to assist with catering. You can register via email turnsa24@gmail.com phone Sid on 0407043393 or look up Turn SA on facebook

Cost is \$60 payable on arrival, includes Lunch and Tea (Pizza at the shed) Sat, BBQ lunch Sun and morning teas Sat Sun Mon.

Accommodation To be arranged and paid by those attending Some options Lobster Motel Kingston Caravan Park RV park Lacepede bay motel

Evening Meals other than Sat You can join us at the Crown Inn or select one of the other great venues in town

Raffles held throughout the weekend any profits are donated to local services in the town

Programme AKA a very rough guide for the weekend

Friday will be arrivals meet n greet set up and maybe a little turning or sawing then we will book table at the Crown Inn for tea (pay your own way) all are welcome to come along.

Saturday will be open to the public some turners and scrollsawers will arrive Saturday. There will be Turning and Scroll sawing. Raffles, maybe a competition and or Demo or 2, morning afternoon tea and lunch will be provided. We will have Pizza delivered to the shed for tea.

Sunday will be open to the public. There will be Turning and Scroll sawing. Raffles, maybe a competition and or Demo or 2, morning afternoon tea and lunch will be provided. We will book table at the Crown Inn for tea (pay your own way) all are welcome to come along.

Monday those of us that are left will be packing up telling lies and planning the next one

4th Saturday—Biggest Morning Tea.

The day started with the normal general meeting followed by Show and Tell.

Prior to these happening, members brought along bits and pieces for both the silent and normal auctions. Members also brought a variety of sweets to have during morning tea.

Tony Davies displayed some of his products to show people how tables are displayed at Northern Turner exhibitions. Well done Tony.

The next event was devouring the sweets with cups of coffee.

The main auction then progressed while the sausages were cooking on the outside BBQs. Tim Smeaton wielded the gavel standing a step ladder.

The event people were looking forward to was the cutting our President's the hair (namely Dave Mills) by the biggest donation which was won by Jan Gatkowski. Much hilarity and numerous photos taken. All agreed his new hair style suited him. However his beanie covered his head very quickly.

The sausages were ready and all had lunch. This was followed by the final results of the silent auction.

