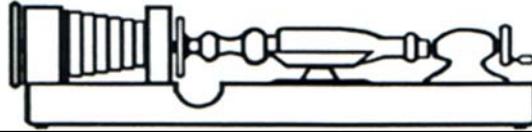


# Shavings & Ravings



NEWSLETTER 128

**NORTH SHORE WOODTURNERS GUILD**

FEBRUARY 2007

PRESIDENT:	Andy Brockes	413 9584	SECRETARY/TREASURER:	Ron Thomas	09 426 7782
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Trefor Roberts	475 9307	EDITOR:	Pierre Bonny	478 0163
WEBMASTER:	William Hursthouse	413 9940	LIBRARIAN:	Colin Crann	483 6012

## Some of the toys for Operation Pinochio 2006



Kevin Hodder's  
Lighthouse puzzle



Angels by Ron Thomas



Top by Murray Speer



Ken Curnow & Andy Brockes checking out the collection



Colin Crann's CC  
Class Loco



Ken Curnow's mower

Thanks once again to William Hursthouse & Andy Brockes for all the best guild night photos

Pierre Bonny cadged a lift from Ian Fish down to South Auckland, to say hello at their regular club night and to watch Dick Veitch demonstrate some processes for turning wet wood into useable timber.

As usual I was warmly welcomed, and even provided with a visitors' pack – a large envelope containing SAWG and NAW membership applications, a newsletter, and a nice pen with turned wood outer. A very nice gift – thanks. And a great idea the NSWG committee agree we should copy! As all the manuals say, you don't get the sale unless you ask for it.

During the business part of the meeting I noted a number of other cunning plans that ensure housekeeping chores are spread out amongst members (including writing the report on the meeting for the newsletter). And I even won a prize in the raffle!

Once guild matters were completed Dick got underway with the demo for the night. He pointed out that the structure of timber is essentially a bundle of many tubes running along the trunk and branches. The new ones added every year to the outside of earlier ones form the rings we see when we cut through a trunk. Problems with obtaining good dry wood stem from differences in how tubes from the centre and those from the outer trunk behave while drying out. A log left to dry out whole will soon have some checking (cracks) starting from ends, degrading its timber. To prevent this happening to the timber, the log must be carefully processed.

How the log is cut does help. To get the most stable wood (and some say best looking too) you need to quarter saw the log. This gives timber with the circular growth rings all across the planks cut from it. But Quarter sawing is awkward to do, is wasteful of wood and now seldom done commercially. When a log is cut 'slabbed right through' only two planks with a similar ring layout to a quarter sawn plank can be obtained. The rest have the rings at various angle through the plank, resulting in less stable planks. Most turners take various mixes of cuts to

gather a range of blanks. Dick showed his miniature logs samples of these methods.

If the timber is to be dried in plank form then it must be filleted, with fillets for each plank directly above the previous one to avoid overloading and deforming the timber. The fillets allow the movement of air to dry the timber. Painting the ends, keeping the pile in the shade, and ensuring gentle air movement all help prevent checking and other blemishes occurring.

Many ways of speeding up drying of plank wood such as the use of kilns and dehumidifiers are employed but purists reckon air-drying is best. Roughly 1 year per inch of slab thickness.

placing it in a box of shavings, as well as freeze drying it, then storing in a fridge. The first three are certainly low effort and well proven, if you have the time to wait, or your access to the cooling devices at home is restricted, or best avoided.

Dick also showed some examples of intentionally distorting the wood during drying. Turning items to quite thin wall thickness, followed by several 'slow cooks' in the microwave certainly twists things about.

Thanks for a very informative evening Dick, and thanks again SAWG for the hospitality.



Patience is required for drying large logs, even using 2000 watts

For woodturners the safest way to dry wood for hollow items is to 'wet turn'. For a bowl this means turning it to a wall thickness of around 10% of the largest diameter, i.e. 1" thick for a 10" bowl. Take care with the final cuts, as ripped out grain needs to be removed sometime, and do make a generous mounting for final turning, as it will shrink across the grain too.

Many timbers require the drying to be slowed to prevent cracking and minimize warping. Various methods can be used, including painting the bowl with Mobil-Cer wax emulsion, wrapping it in newspaper,

**Next Year's NAW SYMPOSIUM** — Last year's symposium in Christchurch was 2 days of full on demonstrations by some of the best woodturners in the world. This time it'll be only a few hours drive away - in the sunny Hawkes Bay. So set aside the **28th to 30th September 2007 naw.**

Keep an eye on what's happening around the country . See the NAW website at the convenient & easy to remember address of [www.naw.org.nz](http://www.naw.org.nz)

## Andy Caps off

2006 has been a year of surprises, ranging across the board in degrees of pleasantness.

For some of us, there have been unpleasant health events but we have pulled through, and I personally want to express my sincere thanks to those of you that have expressed concern in the form of helpful and encouraging words. You have made all the difference to me personally so I say all joy to you and may you live for a thousand years.

As a very naive president, I have really appreciated all the help and guidance that I have received from more knowledgeable members.

Turning-wise, the year has produced many surprises in the form of both technical and artistic skill, with the latter being the most important. I encourage all members to show us their artistic ability even if technically they feel the work is below par.

One of the most exciting aspects of the year has been our search for our own premises with the probable, if not certain outcome, that we have been successful. We all owe special thanks to those that made such a sterling effort in this respect. In particular, Ron Thomas, Trefor Roberts, Peter Williams and Pierre Bonny. Many others have also been very helpful.

We await the council's final nod with eager anticipation and I would

urge members to be ready and willing to assist with necessary maintenance on our own premises.

Finally, don't forget that reasonably good health is necessary for the enjoyment of woodturning and for a long and happy life. So, all you guys, see your doctor and get your PSA test done, and hopefully you won't have to deal with any nasty surprises.

I wish you all an enjoyable and prosperous 2007.

Happy turning,

**Andy Brookes**

### Some articles shown in Term 4 2006



Pepi Waite



Mike Durbin



Trefor Roberts



William Hursthouse



Keith Woodward



David Nicholls



John Roberts



Murray Speer

**Welcome to our new members:** Eddie Petersen and Adriaan Slooten

**October 10<sup>th</sup>**

Colin Crann received plenty of interest in his "DVR Rose engine" from both young and old.



By utilising his Teknatool cross vice, a dremel with flexible drive, some bits of wood, ply and aluminium, along with considerable ingenuity, he is now able to engrave all kinds of patterns on materials mounted in the chuck.



**October 24<sup>th</sup>**

Peter Williams and Jack Renwick were to lead the discussion about how to overcome 'bad habit' ways of doing things in the workshop. As I recollect - with minimal notes - most discussion centred around issues such as holding bowls with small spigot feet on the lathe, how to overcome limitations of choice in chuck size but still have a variety of foot sizes. Also discussed were means of getting in the bottom of rolled over bowls, including the use of a gouge sharpened at a very steep angle.

**October 31<sup>st</sup>**

The AGM was held this week. Ian presented his report suggesting we seriously look for our own premises, as the most active clubs around the country had managed to do so and increase their membership considerably. Andy Brockes is the new President, with Trefor Roberts now set

for Vice. Thanks to others who offered to assist on the committee.

And the exclusive demonstration to complete the evening was conducted by Mr Kevin Hodder of Browns Bay.



We were shown how to make the well loved KH series Locomotive. I have the notes, dimensions and now the knowledge of making some myself for Pinocchio. Will get the details out to members well in time for this years collection.

**November 7<sup>th</sup>**

Jack showed how he makes simple finger spin tops. One secret to having them spin for a good while is to use a panel pin to keep the point sharp.

**November 21<sup>st</sup>**

Ian Fish showed how to get a good finish to a bowl, and how to ensure it stays that way. No big secrets, simply:

- Use a sharp 55° or so gouge, fast lathe speed, slow tool speed, rubbing the bevel, to do the last finishing cuts
- Power sand through the grits at 1200 or so rpm. 120, 240, 320, and 400 - a few seconds each to ensure no heat build up
- Seal wood with nitrocellulose—slop on wipe off. Wax with 0000 wire wool, polish with soft toilet tissue

**November 28<sup>th</sup>**

The Tools & Jigs man from South Auckland - Dave Harmes - showed us his box of tricks. Dave had shown us some a couple of years back, but this time he had his other box. Some of his goodies were:

- Reusable Glue Blocks made of Aluminium (he has some of these in both boxes) which can be warmed again with an iron to melt the glue and remove them from the job
- Depth gauges to ensure you don't go through the bottom of your bowl,

or leave too much fat in the bottom, JIC

- Thickness gauges for hollow forms
- Sandpaper glued to various sizes of square and round sticks to get into clean up tricky places
- The steel 'die', or plate with correct hole size for axles - just push over the roughly sized spindle to get the exact size time after time.

Thanks for taking the time to visit us Dave. I certainly look forward to your next visit with your third box, or any of the other two again.

**December 5<sup>th</sup>**

This was the Top Competition night. Those who didn't have one had no chance of just watching. Murray Speer and others had made plenty to go around. Nobody had time for taking photos.

Who won? I recollect William Hursthouse, Mike Durbin and Murray Speer all being in the running. No Posthuma specials this year—shame.

**December 12<sup>th</sup>**

Edwin Duxfield had relieved high flying Jack Renwick of the task of organising delivery of the Operation Pinocchio toys to the Salvation Army. Organise he did, but this year Captain Linda Travis came to our great mountain of toys. A huge success with everyone hearing about how wooden toys are the most favoured, how they are also gifted during the year for birthdays. And as it turned out also a great PR exercise just in time for the Glenfield Community Board hearing of our application for the building on the 19th. See the article from the North Shore Times of that day opposite.



A Jack Car

Page 6 NORTH SHORE TIMES, Tuesday December 19, 2006

Classified Advertising Ph 485-8886

# Woodturners put happy spin on Christmas

A good turn from a North Shore group is making children happy this Christmas.

The North Shore Woodturners Guild has made toys to give to

families who are struggling at this time of year.

The woodturners have provided these gifts every Christmas for more than 10 years.

This year instead of having the toys delivered, the Salvation Army collected them from the woodturners' meeting place at Rangitoto College and met

their creators. Linda Travis from the Salvation Army's Glenfield-based community services section just managed to pack about 100 toys into her car.

The toys included spinning tops, trains, cars, rocking horses, as well as beds and tables with dolls to fit.

A bright red circus bus and a four-piece train set were among some of the outstanding items.

All were made from wood, some finished simply with oil, others brightly painted.

Ms Travis said the wooden toys are the most popular because as well as looking good they are solid and last.

"We will provide Christmas parcels for 500 families this year, so these toys you have made will make great presents to add to some of them," she told the members.

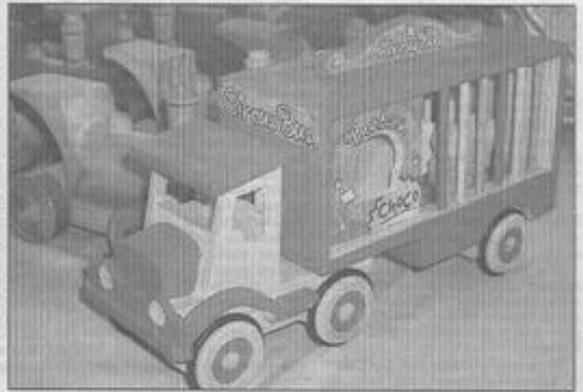
The North Shore Woodturners Guild welcomes visitors and new members and provides tutoring in and demonstrations of the craft of woodturning.

The guild meets on Tuesdays at 7pm during the school term, in the woodwork room at Rangitoto College.

For more information, phone: (09) 425-7782, or see the website: [www.wood.org.nz](http://www.wood.org.nz).



Toy treats: Linda Travis from the Salvation Army and guild member Edwin Duxfield check out one of the tables of toys.



Roll up: A circus truck is among the woodturners' work.

## Ian Fish Woodturning Open Day

Where: South Auckland Woodturners Club Rooms, Tavern Lane, Papatoetoe

When: Saturday February 24 th 9.00am – 4.00pm

As well as my shop offering Teknatool and Woodcut products there will be product demonstrations including the latest Nova 1624 woodlathe.

- Two of NZ's top demonstrators – John MacKinven and Rene Baxelle will be demonstrating their skills.
- Treeworx from Matamata will be there with wood for sale and their usual product range.
- An instant gallery of attendees work with a lucky number prize for entrants.

There'll also be an inter club woodturning race. Each participating club will be offered a piece of wood and a lathe to spin it on. The team has to make an object to be nominated on the day in the shortest time and the best quality. There will be a prize so select your team, start practising – more later.

Entry for the day is \$10 – if you spend \$100 or more with me you get your \$10 back. Numbers are limited to 100 so please register ASAP.

Endless tea and coffee will be provided but bring your own lunch.

**"I am not young enough to know everything."**

Oscar Wilde

## Members Available to Assist New Members

Bill Blanken	37 Gulf View Rd, Rothesay Bay	478 8591
Colin Crann	17 Rambler Cres, Beachhaven	483 6012
David Edwards	782 East Coast Rd, Browns Bay	478 5338
Mike Lewis	31 Davies Rd, Wellsford	09 423 8894
Jack Renwick	169 Chivalry Rd, Glenfield	444 6228
René Baxalle	48 Stott Ave, Birkdale	483 3799

## Kev's Turn

Kevin Hodder has compiled a woodturner's dictionary for our use. This is the last instalment in the series.

Scraper	A tool which removes wood by a scraping rather than a cutting action. When ground the burr should be left as, in effect, this provides a sharper edge. In use the scraper should be pointed slightly down – it should never be pointed up. The bevel angle is usually about 60°. (Also a word which should not be used in the presence of Ian Fish as it may cause a spasm)
Sealing	1. The first step in the finishing process. After turning and sanding a sealer is applied to the bare wood to act as a barrier to the ingress of moisture and dirt. It may also serve as a filler and as a base for other finishing coats. 2. The application of a coating (See MOBILCER) to slow down the loss of moisture from a log or workpiece. This, is applied to the end grain and can assist in the prevention of checking and cracking during the drying, seasoning of the wood.
Segmented work	(See Laminated Work)
Shake	A shake is an internal split which develops in the growing tree or is caused by felling. Splits radiating from the pith are known as heart shakes and those located around growth rings are ring or cup shakes.
Shell auger bit	Used for drilling long holes on the lathe, e.g. in electric lamp stands.
Shell auger	(See Drilling Bits)
Skew chisel	A chisel with the cutting edge ground at an angle on both sides of the chisel.
Slipstone	A (usually tapered) stone for removing the burr from the inside edge of a gouge.
Softwood/ hardwood	(See Hardwood/Softwood)
Spalted/ spaltered timber	Timber which is in the first stages of fungal decay, i.e. rot. Fungal staining, which is blue in colour, may also be present. Spalted timber may retain much of it's original strength and can provide the wood turner with some unusual and attractive effects.
Spigot	A projection on the end of a workpiece which is made to fit into a recess of some kind, e.g. a chuck.
Split turning	A technique used where two identical semi-circular pieces are required. One method is to make a complete turning from solid stock and then saw the piece in half. A better way is to glue two pieces of stock together with a leaf of paper in the joint and then make the turning. When the job is finished the paper allows the two pieces to be easily separated.
Split	A longitudinal crack which extends from one face of the wood to the other and is caused by shrinking in the course of seasoning. (Compare with Check) Splits are particularly common at the ends of boards because they have dried more quickly than the rest of the wood. Consequently the ends of the boards are often waterproofed/sealed before seasoning. (See Sealing & Drying Time)
Square nose chisel	A chisel with the cutting edge ground at a right angle to the side of the tool.
Square	A roughly cut piece of timber with a square section ready for spindle turning. Some workers advocate the conversion of a square into an octagon, by cutting off the corners, prior to turning but this should not be necessary unless the square has a very large section.
Tang	The end of a chisel (or similar tool) which fits into the handle.
Tool rest	Adjustable part of the lathe which supports the chisel (or other tool) whilst turning is in progress.
Wavy edge	A natural edge on a sawn board – usually with the bark removed.
Wet stone	A type of grinding wheel which must be run in water; as it also revolves very slowly there is no danger that the tool will overheat.

# 2007 Programme - Term 1

[www.wood.org.nz](http://www.wood.org.nz)

## *This Term's Project— A rolling pin.*

13th February	Skew chisel, project paper on rolling pin, Demonstrator TBD
20th February	Skew chisel - rolling pin demo, demonstration George Flavell
27th February	Practical night Skew work, rolling pin,
6th March	Toys, Bert Partridge
13th March	Practical night –Toys - ideas see library
20th March	Spatulas and other utensils-- ideas, William Hursthouse
27th March	Practical night - Kitchen utensils,
3rd April	Design review and critique, Prize Giving. Judges Ian Fish and Peter Williams
24th April	Start of Term 2

### **IAN R. F. FISH**

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## *Other Events coming up*

For a full listing of events check out <http://www.naw.org.nz/whatson.htm>

February 15 to March 4	Thames Society of Arts Summer Exhibition. Phone (07) 868 9192 for further information
February 24	Ian Fish Woodturning Open Day— at South Auckland Woodturners, Papatoetoe.
February 24 –25	Training Course for beginners at South Auckland Guild. A must for newcomers. Tutor is Terry Meekan.
March 3 - 4	Turangi Jamboree run by the Lake Taupo Woodworkers Guild.
March 30 to April 1	Turn-Fest run by the Bayside Woodturners, Kooralbyn, Queensland Australia. Turn-Fest is a woodturning symposium held over 3 days at the Kooralbyn resort. There will 15 demonstrators, 100 Live seminars, and all meals and accommodation at this World Class resort.
September 7 - 9	National Woodskills Festival, Kawerau.
September 28 - 30	NAW SYMPOSIUM 2007, organised by Hawkes Bay Woodturners Guild.



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Easy Speed Change

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