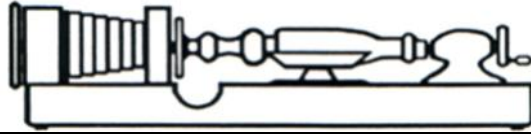


Shavings & Ravings



NEWSLETTER 135

NORTH SHORE WOODTURNERS GUILD

October 2008

PRESIDENT: Trefor Roberts 475 9307
 EDITOR: Pierre Bonny 478 0163
 WEBMASTER: William Hursthouse 413 9940

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 LIBRARIAN: Colin Crann 483 6012

End of Term3 'Lidded Boxes'

- Winners & some others



1st Prize Beginners
Vincent Lardeux



2nd Beginners
Lee Riding



1st Intermediate
Julie Gannaway



1st Experienced & Best Overall
Jack Renwick



2nd Intermediate
Les Whitty



3rd Intermediate
Edwin Duxfield



3rd Beginners
Michael Harrison



2nd Experienced
Pepi Waite



3rd Experienced
Ken Curnow



Lee Riding



Mike Durbin



Vincent Lardeux



Trefor Roberts



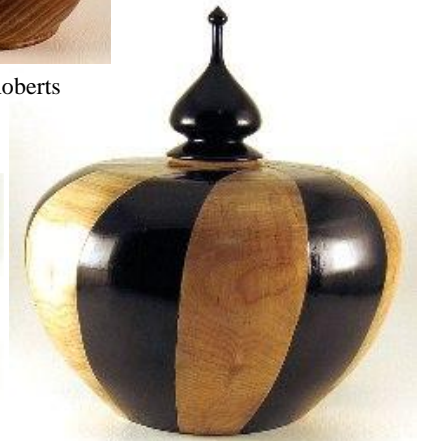
Jack Renwick



Bruce Withers



Les Whitty



Kevin Hodder

Last term the Guild had Shane Hewitt down from Whangarei for a weekend of training, plus Ron and his dedicated team ran the Thursday night beginners course over 8 weeks. This term Ron and Kevin taught the Thursday night class, and René Baxalle took a Saturday class on box making.

Thursday Nights.

On the 14th August Ron Thomas and Kevin Hodder began the 4th training course as a part of the Rangitoto Adult training series. David Browne, Richard Bootten, Grant Pemberton, Sunil Kumar, Kevin Watson and Andrew Peddie took part. This is an 8 week course covering all the basic aspects of woodturning. The course is currently limited to 6 participants. This to keep the trainer/trainee ratio at a high level given the inherent dangers which can arise when wood, which is held in a lathe and revolving at high speed, comes into contact with a metal object held by a hand. The potential for problems, as all wood turners know is very real.



On the first Thursday night there is a set format to go through. All the safety aspects are discussed – the joys of inhaling fine dust particles (breathing is of some importance), the excitement which can be generated when a piece of work comes off the lathe at high speed, what can actually happen when you drop a heavy gouge onto your foot whilst wearing inappropriate footwear, exactly where the First Aid Box is kept, safety goggles are not just for the faint hearted,

the speed with which one can be scalped by getting hair caught in the lathe, the importance of adequate lighting, where to stand when you turn on the lathe.

Then there is of course the equipment and the lingua franca, the buzz words, the patois, the lingo and slang of woodturning. The lathe parts. (I mean, what is a 'head stock' Surely it is a liquid made from the slow boiling up of the heads of dead animals much the same as chicken stock or fish stock.) Ron and Kevin cover them all and then onto the gouges and the whys and wherefores of each type, what a bevel is, a scraper, a parting tool, etc. etc.



Then there is the first demonstration of the course. Aiming for something spindle turned and simple and on this last occasion we made a shopping bag carrier handle. Each night after this the format is that we summarise what was covered last week, discuss what was learned and achieved, demonstrate the next project and move on through. In all the trainees each made two bowls, a platter, two pens, a bag carrier and a weed pot. The penultimate night is finishing off the projects undertaken and then a question and answer session. The final night is at a Tuesday meeting of the NSWG where the trainees present the products of their training to members of the guild during the regular 'show and tell'.

The benefits of these training sessions are many fold. They introduce woodturning to interested individuals,

they introduce the trainees to the facilities of the North Shore Woodturners Guild which they may well then go on to join, they provide a source of revenue, albeit not large, to the Guild, they provide an opportunity for those members of the guild who are interested in passing on their skills. All in all a most satisfying exercise for all involved. KH

Rene Baxalle training day

Sat 23rd August

Eight guild members assembled for a hands on training day with Rene Baxalle, the focus for the day was on turning lidded boxes.

To have 8 hours of uninterrupted turning was a real treat and to have someone of Rene's calibre coaching us made the day even better.

Rene showed us each step in the process and with the number of lathes at the guild we were able to then go away and practice with his guidance. This has to be the very best way to really get to grips with the necessary skills - to have time to make the mistakes, to have the reasons why things didn't work out explained by Rene - was so helpful. To then be able to go away and recreate them in our own workshop with confidence after that day was fantastic.

Rene is a wonderful turner, his precision and patience in getting things perfect at each step before he moved on really taught me to slow down!!! Not to be in such a rush and to get the tool work perfect especially for each part of a lidded box. He showed us that this alone will ensure that, it makes the overall job quicker, as you are then not trying to fix mistakes and the end product will have a much more professional look and finish if it is done properly at each step. Better to make 1 perfect box in an afternoon than 2 OK ones.

Thank You Rene, I will continue to practice and at least now will have an idea of where I went wrong and how to fix it.

As an extra bonus that day Rene showed us how he does that wonderful weaving on turnings, it seemed easy with his guidance but I suspect there would be many, many mistakes to be made if I tried to tackle it on my own! Julie Gannaway

Tref's Say

Well what a term it was.....

School Holidays again so another opportunity for me to go on holiday and to get out of doing the Working Bee!!! - but seriously, I understand many good things were accomplished. Thanks to all those who organised and to everyone who participated.

Hopefully you all felt slightly extended with last term's programme and the things you saw during the term. Let us hope that all your skills have improved and we look forward to seeing some great work in the "Anything goes" project for this term.

Since we had such a great weekend last time, I have rebooked Shane Hewitt for the weekend of 1st and 2nd of

November. There are only 10 slots for each day, geared for all levels and covering different topics each day, so feel free to come for the whole weekend – I am!! This is a total hands on weekend which I can highly recommend, so please put your name down as soon as possible to avoid missing out.

On a sad note, we farewelled Andy Brockes this term. Andy was a stalwart of the guild, doing many jobs from tea-boy to president. He inspired us to make the transition from the classroom in Rangitoto College to having a vibrant club with our own workshop/clubrooms. Andy will be sorely missed by all those who came into contact with him and every time I open the big double doors I think of Andy's efforts in fixing them.

See you all at the Guild

Tref



Swamp Kauri earring box
Dave Edwards



Kauri with opals set in resin,
Murray Speer



Bruce Withers

This issue is once again more of a team effort than usual. Peter Burnett, Julie Gannaway, Kevin Hodder and David Browne all reported on events. Thanks guys. Any offers to photograph and/or write up any woodturning activities gratefully accepted - Ed.

Apologies to Jack Renwick. In the last issue, not only did I attribute his Queen Anne leg to Ms Hopalong, but I incorrectly labelled his beautiful pohutukawa vase shown below as being someone else. Ed.



Jack Renwick

Members Available to Assist New Members

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
Pierre Bonny	1 Agathis Ave, Mairangi Bay	478 0163
René Baxalle	48 Stott Ave, Birkdale	483 3799

Inspiration for the new term: "A life spent making mistakes is not only more honourable but more useful than a life spent doing nothing." George Bernard Shaw

July 22nd

Firstly – the weather. It was from the south and really south, like Antarctica or maybe even further. We are talking about cold, slashing rain. Rain that was so heavy that President Trefor had to raise his voice to be heard over the din coming from the rain on the roof. It is no doubt a tribute to the hardiness of the members of the North Shore Woodturners Guild that there were close to 30 members present.

Secondly – the 3rd term project. It is a lidded box. This was clarified by the President to mean any wooden vessel with a removable lid.

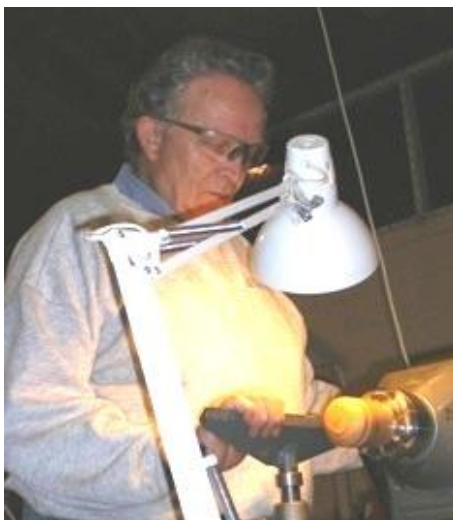
Thirdly - the raffle. Barry was up there again now being supported by young Brett Duxfield. I had 81, 82 and 83. Figured that I was certain to win something. Nah! Never happened. The organisers had it all worked out. They made sure the President won. They made sure that they won. They made sure that nearly everyone in the hall won. They made sure that 81, 82 and 83, my numbers stayed on the bottom of the barrel. I do not know how they do this but it is very clever, they do a mighty fine job and I shall continue to buy tickets. Honestly though the raffle is well run and the prizes are great. Thank you Barry and Brett.

Fourthly – the display table. Pepi Waite showed us a 'design opportunity' which had occurred. It is always good to see turners, especially one as accomplished as Pepi, bring along a piece that has gone wrong for them. It allows the less experienced to see that it not always easy going. David Edwards had made a ring tree/ear ring box. Sue Pritchard talked about using a jam chuck that she had made. Murray Speer had made a clever offering from old oak and puriri with an inlay. Our resident Frenchman, Vincent Lardeux, talked about some US Maple that he had access to. There were other offerings but your scribe neglected to note them. Tsk! Tsk!

Fifthly – we then moved on to the main event.

Wearing a sweatshirt emblazoned with AUCKLAND EXCAVATIONS which we all hoped was not indicative of

what he was about to demonstrate, David Edwards strode up to the lathe. (good introduction eh). David presented Lidded Boxes. He talked to us about his successes, near successes, failures and mishaps. He was forthright, honest and immensely



practical. Talked to us about preferred tools and timber. Then commenced to create his lidded box. Turned the wood to round with a spigot on both ends, marked it off into thirds and parted off one of these which was then placed onto the lathe. This was to be the lid. He marked on the inside/end where the rim was to be and then hollowed and parted it off appropriately.

David demonstrated the importance of good work habits. When not using the gouge he places it under his arm, sergeant major style, with the handle pointing to the front. This eliminates the possibility of the tip touching the wood.

He then placed the section which was to be the base of the box onto the lathe, measured the inside rim of the lid and transferred this onto the end of the base (I hope that you are keeping up with all this). It is often worthwhile to drill out the centre of the base to provide good depth definition and ease of hollowing.

Check that the lid is a good fit onto the base. It was at this juncture that David aptly demonstrated just what a good turner he is. The lid was too loose. He had taken off too much wood. Very quickly he remounted the lid onto the laths and turned another rim. Then went on to complete the base. Placed the now good fitting lid on the base and carefully using his skew chisel perfectly lined up the two components achieving a very fine finish with no sanding required. Last tasks were to remove the spigots from the lid and base (slightly concave), disguise the joint between the lid and base with a few grooves. The final product was held aloft to thunderous applause from the assembled masses. (slight exaggeration there re the masses). KH

July 29th

A hands-on night of various ways to make boxes led by Mike Durbin, Dave Edwards, Jack Renwick and Pierre Bonny.

August 5th

A practical night with members making their own lidded boxes



Peter Burnett (left)
Chris Sieberhagen (above)

Keep an eye on what's happening around the country. Checkout www.naw.org.nz
New to the Guild and don't know what NAW is? The National Association of Woodworkers is funded by clubs and individual members, and provides country wide coordination of demonstrations, and much more.



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August 12th

Mike Lewis came down from the hills and demonstrated his version of the rectangular box he had seen Jimmy Clewes make at the NAW symposium in Hastings last year.



Mount using screw-chuck, shape bottom and spigot....



...remount using spigot, shape top, bowl, and lip for lid to fit into...



...shape underneath lid to fit base..



...remount base with lid fitted...turn lid top and knob.



...one off the lathe & one finished

Rather than placing the wood on the lathe “end grain” with the lathe bed, this box is turned “cross grain”, with the extremities of the blank left—so care needs to be taken of the corners wizzing by during turning. For safety most sanding is best done without the lathe turning. Other than these points, the steps are similar to those followed for a run of the mill box, but reordered. Mike had blanks of 100x65 timber, 250 long for the base and 120 for the lid.

August 19th

Those attending this meeting beheld a wondrous machine - pulleys, belts, shafts and cams in profusion. The uninitiated immediately queried - What is it? What does it do and how? Fortunately proud owner Colin Crann was on hand to explain and demonstrate.

What is a Rose engine. The obvious question followed, how so named? Colin's explanation was 'The name given was supposed to be after a classic design it produces, a chrysanthemum, but being unable to spell same settled for Rose. Belief of this explanation is an individual choice.

Colin constructed and developed his engine over 8 years during which 3 major changes were made. Where practical, the components are made of timber, the pulleys are made of MDF board. The driving belts, being tubular plastic are simply joined with super glue. Cams, of which there are many and all interchangeable, were made of wood and plastic.

Three accessories were displayed. A Teknatool ornamental turner which was capable of two movements. Swash turning was the term mentioned in relation to this piece of equipment. A Dremmel drill and a small router completed the trio.

Doubtless more accessories are available but fearing an information overload we were fearful to ask.

What does it do? Basically ornamental turning inscribes intricate patterns on to platters, bowls and discs of varying shapes. The designs are produced by the selection of the cams and cutting methods employed. There are pretty much an infinite number of designs possible, each dependant on the selection of cams and the setup of the engine. Setting up appears as an art form in itself.

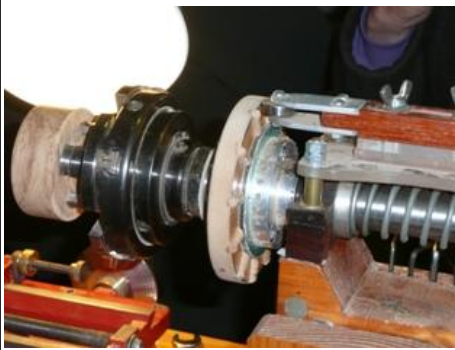
How?

Conventional turning involves the cutting tool moving against revolving wood, but the Rose engine moves the revolving wood against spinning drills or cutters, which for the most part remain in a static position .



This is an over simplification to illustrate the basic principle. The engine can move the work back and forth on a horizontal plane. To and fro [away and towards the operator] and up and down, plus a rocking motion.





All the aforementioned motions may be undertaken as the wood revolves. The selection of cams determines the actions. Further variations can be obtained by the positioning of the cutting tools.

Using the ornamental turner and later the dremmel drill, Colin demonstrated a few techniques to illustrate the versatility of the machine. Interest in the proceedings was such that most people left their seats for a better view.

That's how I saw it. Peter Burnett

August 26th

This evening proved to be just as inspiring as the previous two weeks, with Ian Fish showing us some favourite lidded boxes from his collection of others work. Most memorable were pieces by Gulio Marcolongo and David Ellsworth.



After explaining how he made the base, Ian demonstrated making the lid for a large cross grained box, such as his own pictured below.



September 2nd

Dick Veitch demonstrated turning a pohutukawa lidded box with a kahikatea decorative insert, similar to that pictured below.

With the wood already rounded, Dick started to shape the lid at one end with a large roughing gouge. He then marked the top of the box at about 1/3 and with the roughing gouge worked on the overall shape of the box. After the basic shape was done, Dick marked parting points for the lid and the base. Using a thin parting tool, he then separated the lid from the base.

Dick then did some final shaping on the top of the box to ready it for the insert. Using a special gouge which was sharp at the front edge as well as the side, Dick cut a groove to fit the kahikatea insert. He also explained exactly how he was doing this with a diagram on the white board to make it easier to see.

When he was satisfied with the depth of the insert cut, Dick changed chucks and put in the block of kahikatea to shape the insert. After checking the size of the insert cut, he then marked the size on the piece of kahikatea and then proceeded to cut it very carefully, checking the fit regularly. The insert was then parted off and glued into the top of the box with PVA. For the purpose of the demonstration, Dick had another one already glued and set so that he could carry on.

After cutting a hole in the centre of the insert, the next step was to shape the

outer edge of the insert to the shape of the box. With the double edged gouge he then cut the inside edge of the insert to 1/2 the width and 1/2 the depth so that it looked balanced when looking at it from the top.

Next the lid was put in a chuck and the size of the opening was marked, then cut to fit into the kahikatea. This was then removed from the chuck and fitted into the box. The tail stock was then brought up to support the finial while some more rough shaping was done on the lid. Dick then used a spindle gouge to shape all the elements of the lid, starting with two "flying saucers" at the bottom of the finial.

With the two bottom shapes made, he then taped the lid to the box to hold it in place so that he could remove the tail stock to finish off the thinner part at the top of the finial. The lathe speed used was about 2000rpm. This was a very delicate part of the demonstration and required a very steady hand.

The next step was to work on the "onion" at the top of the finial, working firstly on the point of the onion and then back towards the base of the onion. Dick suggested that the finish should be as good as possible so that not much sanding was necessary. A small "flying saucer" under the onion was the next piece worked on.

The last part of the lid was a very thin stem between the small fling saucer at the top and the two larger flying saucers lower down. When this was done Dick removed the tape and said he was almost satisfied with the finished article. A vote of thanks was given to Dick for a very good demonstration. David Browne.

[for photos of the steps Dick followed check out www.wood.org.nz, Show & Tell for 2nd September 2008.]



This Term's Project— Anything goes.

Tuesday 7pm	Activity
October 14th	"Tubes" with Dick Veitch.
October 21st	Ian Fish—hollowing tools.
October 28th	AGM plus secret guest appearances
November 4th	Dave Anderson—last time it was Spheres and Rings, this time Anything goes....
November 11th	Michael Bernard—the spindle expert, and much more.
November 18th	Fire Equipment Training.
November 25th	Upskills night.
December 2nd	Ian Fish—Equipment display & Operation Pinocchio—Toys for Salvation Army
December 9th	To be notified
December 16th	Last Night Term 4. Competitions, prizes, EOY Xmas Party
February 3rd	First Night Term 1 2009

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For other official events at Guild Hall, Agincourt Reserve, Agincourt Road, Glenfield please see ** below.

Other Special Events coming up

October 10 – 12th	Tauranga Woodcrafters Club Annual Show
** November 1st & 2nd	Shane Hewitt Day Course. Limited to 10 participants each day. See notice board or Trefor to Book for 1 or both days.
November 1st	Franklin Wood Turners Clubroom Opening, 12pm on, Collingwood Road Waiuku
** December 6th	Working Bee
December 11-15th	Guild of Woodworkers Wellington. hed 11, Queens Wharf, Jervois Quay, Wellington. Display and sale of woodcraft
March 13 – 15th March	Taupo Jamboree. Lake Taupo Woodworkers Guild.

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



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