



TURNINGS

August 2004

WCWA, Pinelands Hobbies Club, Nursery Way, Pinelands
www.lando.co.za/dlaidler/wcwa

AWSA home page: www.awsa.org.za

Central Ohio Woodturners (Sister club to WCWA): <http://www.biosci.ohio-state.edu/~awolfe/COW/cow.html>

We once again have a web site - for the moment at www.lando.co.za/dlaidler/wcwa. Thanks Dennis for your time, expertise putting it together for us, and for sharing your site. Please have a look at what's been added and give him (or Louis) feedback on it. We can then make an appropriate decision regarding a more permanent independent site at a nominal cost to the club.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hello to All,

I am one of the fortunate ones on holiday. Until now, I've not had a lot of time to spend in front of the lathe. Other odds and ends in and around the house have kept me busy.

In the previous article I touched on the costing and pricing of our products. Thanks for the feedback and the comments. As Dave Stephenson mentioned in an e-mail to me, we cannot regulate the prices of our turnings or lay down rules. I fully agree with this point of view. We can however offer a helping hand to our members as well as learning from the diversity of the experience of the members. Further, awareness can be fostered for the complexity of this issue; we can open it up and debate it with other turners. In doing this we will add value to our craft and our products. I am looking forward to the discussion regarding this topic that Graeme is going to facilitate on the fourth Wednesday of September, the 24th.

The collaboration evening went very well; thanks for your participation. The end results were excellent, so congratulations to each and every one! Following on from this success, Rare Woods have made a generous timber donation to the Club which will be made available to members, who are going to take part in the challenge that Thys is going to give us at his demo this Wednesday evening, the 18th August.

Being the editor of our newsletter is possibly not the easiest of tasks. I want to request members to share their experiences with us. We can all learn from one-another, even if you come across something interesting in a book, magazine or on the web. An interesting project with a few photographs, a short-cut or a way you overcome a problem, or even how to go about selling on a craft market will be valuable. You may think not feel it is interesting enough to publish but we can

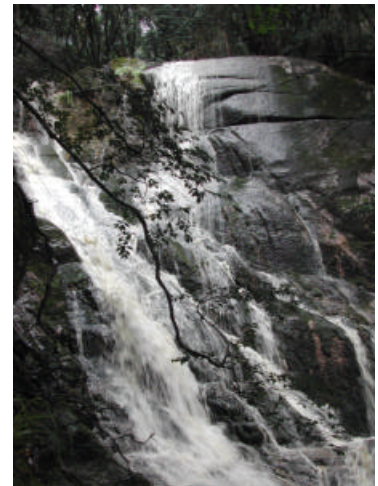
all learn from each other, irrespective of how experienced or inexperienced you are. Share your experiences with us, in doing so we all learn and promote woodturning. Let's all contribute and make Ken's task easier. Ken, thanks for all the time and effort.

Louis

EDITORIAL

"To the woods! To the woods!"

The secret is out - the Cape Winter this year started in August. At long last, we've had really meaningful rains, albeit with all the misery and flooding on the Cape Flats that heavy downpours leave in their wake. It has compensations though and I can only encourage you to go out with empty (car) boots and some strong arms to see what's blown down. Jane and I were lucky enough to find some promising timber; like good red wine it'll hopefully be that much better for a few months maturation time. It'll bring back memories of one of my favourite seasons in our Fairest Cape. Thanks Dennis for this super pic taken last week in Skeleton Gorge.



After the rains come the flowers; from all accounts a bumper season is expected in Namaqualand this year. That reminded me that many of our up-country and

overseas and readers may not have heard that Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens have now been declared part of the Table Mountain National Park and are now part of the eight regions which together make up the Cape Floral Region, an International Heritage Site. What a feather in the caps of all those who have worked so hard to preserve and improve it for so many years. (Something I was staggered to learn was that the cultivated area is only 6 percent of the total area of Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. For those who enjoy stats, the Cape Floral Region represents less than 0.5% of the area of Africa but is home to nearly 20% of the continent's flora!) Dennis has agreed to organise a "Tree-ID outing" for members, probably on a Saturday morning during spring, so that's something we can all look forward to.

That brings to mind the forthcoming Flower Show. At the first show a year ago I was floored by some of the questions asked by the visitors. "Happiness was" being able to turn to other far more knowledgeable members on the stand for help. We all need to bear in mind that the average visitor to this show has a very genuine interest in flowers and often a surprising depth of knowledge about trees. We need to do all we can to shine at that show - to look and be professional. There are many factors that contribute - some safety-related, some PR and some organisational aspects including the state of our equipment and both club and personal tools. I believe we can all take a long hard look at these aspects. There's time to sort things out, but only if we start soon. Let's panic early!

Ken

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Wed 18th August (Third Wednesday) - Our formal meeting when we can look forward to a general update from the Committee, our normal Instant Gallery and the Raffle, followed after the break by a demo on Involuting Turning by Thys Carstens. You'll find comprehensive notes from Thys at the end of the newsletter that I was remiss in not including last month. My apologies Thys, but please help me out of the pickle jar by taking in what he's going to share with us and coming back in September with examples for our instant gallery of what you've achieved as a result of attending his demo. A sincere "Thank You" to Rare Woods for the timber.

Wed 25th August (Fourth Wednesday) - Normally a working evening, but this time we'll kick off at about 19h30 with an informal chat by a new advertiser, Kai Hallermann of Powertool Repairs in Roodebloem Road, Woodstock. We look forward to hearing what he'd like to share with us about some of his extensive range of tools that include, Tormek, Proxxon, Festool, Metabo, Makita, Mactek and a wide range of router bits, Forstner bits and other items of interest to all of us. Please do support us that evening as we always learn from these "trade sessions".

Guest Fee:

A guest fee of R25 per visit will apply to members who have failed to renew their membership, and guests attending more than two club meetings.

September is a month with a bonus Wednesday in it -

Wed 1st September - Club will open at 19h00 for the normal informal working evening. It is also the night of the monthly committee meeting.

Wed 8th September - Specifically set aside to assist beginners. Bring along your own tools where possible and try to let one of our workshop managers know if you'd like to book a lathe.

Wed 15th September - Formal Meeting and Gert's monthly raffle followed by a very informal "Widget Night".

This is your chance to share some of those really good ideas / gadgets / techniques / tools or whatever that you find make a real difference to your turning or your workshop. (I've kept a scribble sheet taped to the cupboard door in my workshop and have been adding to it as a reminder of topics to select from.)

- Be brief
- Show us (a pic or diagram at least) - don't just tell us about it...
- Quantity counts as much as quality
- Participate

What about a "Tip of the Night" prize, as selected by popular vote?

Wed 22nd September - Open session led by Graeme Hill on "Pricing of Items for Sale".

Wed 29th September - Talk by Jeremy Hermansen of Indalo Contractors (Specialists in tree felling, tree surgery and landscaping) on the **Sensible Use and Maintenance of Chain Saws**.

REPORT BACK

Last month's collaboration evening, organised by Louis Van Niekerk, was a great success. With an open-ended challenge, identical starting pieces, competition between the four teams and time pressure it had all the right ingredients. It was an eye-opener to see the final results. For those who missed it, you really did miss out!

SHOWS ON THE HORIZON

The Cape Town Flower Show - There'll be more detail about it at the meeting, but any members with pieces to sell on the Flower Show will need to hand them in at the clubhouse the Wednesday before the show.

This will enable the organising team to catalogue them properly, check that they are in keeping with our aims and that the prices asked are fair to all. We need help guys - not only demonstrating, but also with PR, transport both ways,

setting up and clearing up. All can help. Please do. New faces will be most welcome!



MEMBERSHIP FEES

Never a popular topic but we've currently received payment from Philip Antrobus, Nico Bantjes, Peter Baumann, Mike

Bester, Gordon Bowers, Ed Brymer, Steve Bull, Thys Carstens, Neil Carter, Izak Cronje, Beyers Cronje, Jim Douglas, Wearne Draper, Ernest Du Plessis, Gawie Eksteen, Gert Ferreira, Edward Forster, Andre Herbst, Graeme Hill, William Hobbs, Sven Karth, Gigi and Dennis Laidler, Peter L'Estrange, Brian Mc Cay, Harold Mills, Ahmed Mitha, Peter Morris, Hein Muller, David Nathan, Peter Nicolle, Bert Parker, Ken Pilkington, Jonathan Reed, Mike Richards, Hugh Scholtz, Jimmy Stevenson, Eric Thornton, Ken Turner, Juri Van Den Heever, Tony Van Niekerk, Louis Van Niekerk, Johan M Van Zyl, Jacob Venter, Derek Westley, Andre Beyers, Fanie De Villiers and Johan De Villiers. To all these members, our grateful thanks.

To the other 47 members (who paid their subs last year), please get your payment to Bert as soon as possible in August. It's only fair on those who have paid their dues.

PDF Files

There are still some members having a problem when they receive an electronic version of the newsletter as a .pdf file. Let's have a quick look at What, Why, and How.

What are they? It's a file saved in a specific format. Just as a Microsoft Word file is saved as a something.doc file, a file that's been printed to an Adobe Acrobat writer is saved as Portable Document Format file or .pdf file for short.

Why are we keen to get everyone up and running with that format? Firstly, anyone with virtually any PC can read a .pdf file by installing a small "reader" program, Adobe Acrobat Reader, freely available from the Internet. You don't have to have a program as big as MS Word just to open the newsletter. Secondly, you will see the newsletter just as it was written, regardless of which fonts are installed on your machine, which printer you have and whether you run on a PC or an Apple, under Microsoft, Unix or OS-2. Thirdly, the file is smaller than in MS Word format for example, which makes it quicker for you to download saving you time on line and money. Lastly, because of their compatibility with so many systems, .pdf files have become very common as downloads from the Internet. If you can't read them, you're depriving yourself from some really good stuff. Did you know for instance that Tormek, Metabo, Makita and I'm sure most of the tool companies have full manuals for their tools ready for download in pdf format? Same with cellphones!



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How do you get the reader? Go to www.adobe.com and navigate your way to Downloads. Select your operating platform probably Windows, then download version 5. Alternatively, to make it easy, if anyone would prefer to pick up the reader program on a CD from me at the next meeting, give me a ring and I'll burn a copy for you. (Can

you believe it's now cheaper to give you a CD than it is to buy a stamp, let alone add an address label to an envelope and print the newsletter out as well? What an offer...)

THE MARKET PLACE

We run commercial adverts in our newsletter. If you wish to advertise, or know of a company or person who might like to advertise, please contact Bert Parker or Ken Turner. Rates for

an advert placed in the monthly newsletter, are R350 per annum. The adverts are rotated monthly to make it fair to all.

"The Market Place" is a free service for members, however the editor would appreciate feedback as items are sold.



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Mick

O'Donnell DVD's and Tapes

Bert still has copies of Mick O'Donnell's videos and DVD's "Turning Green Wood" which include a section on Sharpening tips. These are available to members at just R150 each thanks to Mick's generosity and it complements his book so well. Do make the most of this offer while they're available.

SECOND-HAND TABLE

Please remember to bring along old tools to the "formal" meeting". This offers the newer members an opportunity of acquiring affordable tools, and a bit of extra.

TURNING JACKETS

Nico Bantjes is producing workshop jackets, blue with the club logo.

R35 for the apron or R55 for the full jacket.

Tel: (021) 913 0296

SUPERGLUE

Glue available from Bert Parker. The brand he has (Cartell) is by far the best that I've used.

DUST MASKS


These are also available from Bert. Have a look at the new style of mask he has. Much improved!

TAILPIECE

A comment attributed to Chris Stott –

"An amateur turner picks up a tool and starts to cut with it. A professional turner picks up a tool and sharpens it."

(With thanks and acknowledgment to The Greater Vancouver Woodturners Guild Newsletter – Dec Jan 2003)



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INVOLUTED TURNING

(Reprinted from April 1999 TURNINGS)

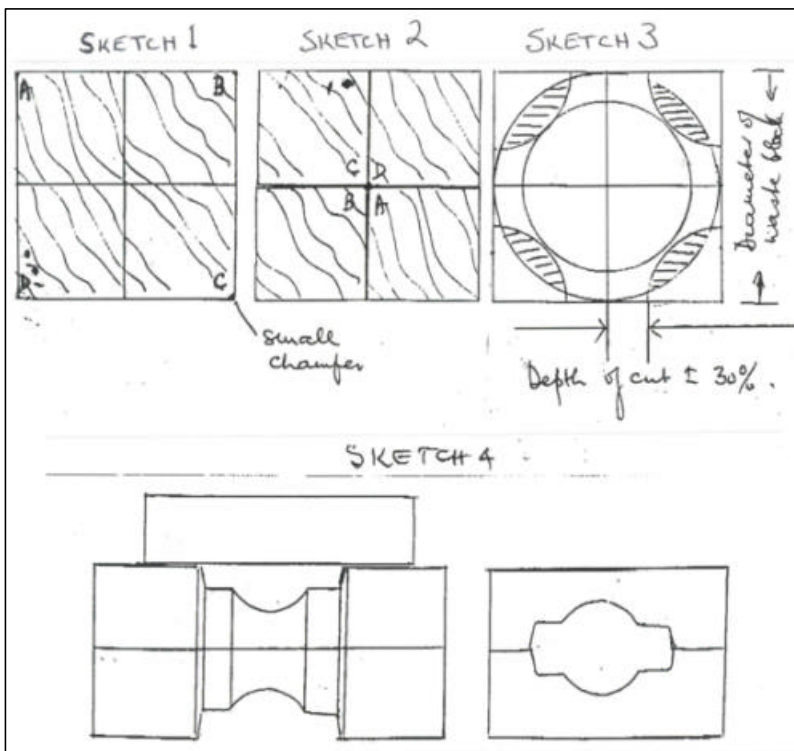
This months project is involuted or inside out turning – especially for the members who are tired of bowls and vases. This discipline is also done totally in spindle mode.

The principle is fairly simple. A single block say of 100mm square (in cross section) or 4 pieces of 50 mm square can be used. Matching up the grain, if present, is important, as it will enhance the appearance of the final piece.

If a single block i.e. 100mm cross section is used, divide it into four equal squares (Sketch 1) by cutting accurately using the fence of your bandsaw or circular saw.

Mark the pieces A to D in the corners as indicated in sketch 1 and make a small chamfer on all 8 corners (both those marked A to D and the diagonally opposite corners). Each block must be planed on all four sides and must be perfectly square in cross section. Rearrange the blocks with the outer corners now towards the inside as in sketch 2. If the squares are not equal set your saw fence to the smallest block size and cut the others to the same size.

Using the paper joint method or preferably hot melt glue, join the 4 pieces with the corners A to D in the centre. The chamfer made on the 8 corners will now form a recess for mounting the four assembled pieces



between centres on the lathe.

If you're going to use hotmelt glue there is a good chance that the drivecentre and tailstock will tend to separate the 4 blocks as the joint is not as firm as a paper joint. To avoid this we need to glue two scrap wood disks to the ends of the workpiece. To make these disks I prefer to glue two scrap wood blocks together using a small amount of hotmelt. Mount them between centres and turn them to the diameter equal to the dimensions of the composite 4-part workpiece, indicated in sketch 3. These blocks will have indentations made by the drive spur and the tailstock. Separate the two disks and glue them onto the ends of the workpiece. The whole piece will now have two ends with indentations ready for mounting.

An alternative to cutting a 100mm block in four is to use a long piece of planed wood say 50mm square. It can be cut into four equal lengths. The sequence of matching the four pieces and preparing the two end disks is the same as described above.

The mounted piece is now turned to the design you have chosen. The depth of cut is critical. Don't cut too deep, not more than 30% of the radius of the scrap wood disks, as when you reverse the pieces sufficient wood must be left to form the wall of the turned piece. (see Sketch 3). The deeper you cut the less material is left for turning the wall. The outside can be turned round as in Christmas tree decorations or left almost square for candleholders and lamp. To visualise the design put a straight edge over the square section as in sketch 4. This will show you half the pattern of your completed design. If you want the inside coloured this must be done before splitting the four pieces.

Split the turned workpiece in four and realign as in sketch 1. The pieces can now be glued together two pieces at a time. Cold glue and clamps can be used or super glue is a possibility. When the glue is set level the inside flat on a piece of 60-grit sandpaper. Treat the second piece in the same way. Glue the two blocks of two together taking care that the patterns align. Mount the workpiece between centres and turn to the final shape.

I hope you find this project a challenge and I'm looking forward to seeing your articles. For those who are interested we can do more complex involuted projects on faceplate such as vases and lampshades.

Thys Carstens