



TURNINGS

January/February 2008

WCWA (Physical address), Pinelands Hobbies Club, Nursery Way, Pinelands

WCWA (Internet home page), www.wcwa.za.net

AWSA (Home page), www.awsa.org.za

Central Ohio Woodturners (WCWA Sister Club): <http://www.biosci.ohiostate.edu/~awolfe/COW/cow.html>

NEXT MEETING.

The next formal meeting will be on **Wednesday 20th February** at 19-00 hours at the Pinelands Hobbies Club.

We will be showing one or two more chapters of the DVD "Beyond Wood"

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of the Western Cape Woodturners Association, to be held on Wednesday **16th April 2008** at 19:00, at the Pinelands Hobbies Club, Nursery Way, Pinelands.

The committee hereby calls for nominations for members to serve on the committee for 2008/2009 to be submitted in writing to any committee member, by Wednesday 19th March 2004.

A nomination form can be found at the end of this newsletter.

FROM THE CHAIR

This edition of Turnings will be fairly short and lacking in articles but promised articles have sadly not materialised so only snippets of activities and the usual notices will form the meat of the news letter.

2008 is well and truly in full swing. To think that nearly one sixth of the year has gone by is unbelievable.

There was no lack of trepidation thanks to our newfound butt of recent wisecracks –Eskom-.

We have learnt to plan our turning between the advertised load shedding times then nothing happens.. until a while later Zap and you're in darkness just as you are finishing the most intricate or delicate part of a piece.

Pinelands schedules are daily 10-00am to 12-30pm when the weekly domestic servant is

busy vacuuming or ironing and 6-00pm to 8-30pm, which I fear, would seriously handicap our meetings. So please guys keep fingers crossed so that we do not have a blackout and become " a previously lit area".



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The WCWA has an answer to this problem in the form John Derrick who enjoys turning candlesticks to practice his spindle turning.



John Derrick WCWA's answer to Eskom

Whilst the going has been good the Wednesday workshops have proven to be a great success.

Since the purchase of our Jet™ lathes never have we had so much activity and have so many shavings been cut than now.

The last couple of weeks we have had 8 lathes (5 belonging to WCWA, 2 belonging to the Pinelands Hobbies Club and 1 belonging to me) in action for the whole evening.



A circle of 8 lathes in action

Quite a few new faces are in evidence, which is most encouraging for building up association membership.

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So many are we that we are taking it in turns to get behind the lathe to give everyone a fair chance.



Some turn and some just wait their turn

Ending on a sad note Brian McCay will no longer be joining us. Due to ill health he is not allowed to be in dusty situations. He will need at least 6 months to recuperate and get back

to good health. He will none the less take up a more sedate hobby – painting.

He was a real team member whenever we had outside activities he was always the first one to offer help and be there when needed. Brian thank you for your assistance and support over the years.

We will miss you.

Here's wishing all of the best for the future.

Eric

IMPORTANT REMINDER.

For all AWSA members the final date for registration without pecuniary penalty for the Annual seminar is upon you.

Deadline is 29th of February 2008. Non AWSA members if interested are to contact any committee member for information [or visit the AWSA website: <http://www.awsa.org.za/Symposium.htm>. – “virtual ed.”]

KNOW YOUR FELLOW TURNER

Everything must go

'You're a complete fruitcake, aren't you? I had no idea" Francis Tuthill, ace historic rally driver turned event organiser, has dropped in on John Atkins unexpectedly during our visit and is wandering around in disbelief.



Sale of the century: John Atkins with some of the automobilia to be sold next week



Picture: CHRISTINE BOYD

Atkins, specialist number plate dealer, accomplished amateur racing driver and motoring arch-enthusiast, is showing us his collection, housed in a cavernous succession of linked out-buildings at his manor house in Oxfordshire. It amounts to a one-man museum, a lifetime's effort in hunting down interesting motoring trivia, and it is nearly all to be sold on site by H & H Classic Car Auctions next Wednesday.

There are thousands of items: more than 80 enamel signs, eight old fuel pumps and 32 pump "globes", numerous complete bound runs of magazines, more than 100 signed, limited-edition prints and pictures, countless models, toys, rare oil cans, foreign number plates, pre-war racing goggles, many early bicycles including a stylish pair of "his and hers" Humbers, mopeds of all denominations, a full set of metal BARC members' passes to Goodwood motor races, and plenty more. The collection will be sold in more than 500 lots.

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ASH, BEECH, AFRICAN ROSEWOOD, IROKO,IMBUIA, POPLAR, SA PINE ETC.

It all began with Dinky toys in childhood and trips to motor racing at Goodwood in the 1950s and 1960s. More recently, the Goodwood estate has hired lorry loads of old stuff from John with which to decorate the Motor Circuit Revival meeting. John raced his Ford Anglia there last year and took a class win in the saloon car race.

Moving on through the building, bizarre German female mannequins add a surreal touch to the John Atkins Collection ("They were about to be thrown into a skip after a European fashion show, so I stepped in and saved them").

One, according to its tag, is called "Mildread" and is wearing the genuine First World War Royal Flying Corps kit of Lord Besborough.

"What do you think of this one?" asks John, indicating a beautiful, 6ft tall tailor's dummy

dressed in an unused RAC motorcyclist's uniform from the early 1950s. "She's everything I ever dreamed of," I reply, "but why isn't she wearing her left shoe?"

"I'd have had to drill a hole in the shoe to get it on her: I didn't want to do that as the uniform is a complete spare set, once owned by a real RAC patrolman, and never worn."

We wander past "Cuthbert", a female German transvestite dummy; this one is kitted up as Brooklands Austin 7 racer Sid Holbrook. A pre-war Aston Martin two-seater has a topless mannequin in the passenger seat, wearing a feather boa and a fireman's helmet; the "driver" wears an old Army uniform with an MOV armband, but John can't remember what it means. The Aston, on loan from a friend, is not in the sale.

"There's no single item of great value here," he says, "just things I seem to have acquired over the years." However, he points to a glass-fronted cabinet of Dinky-sized cars and adds: "These might be worth £10,000."

There's a real AC Cobra which John has owned for 25 years and in which he has won many races, as well as the gruelling 1988 European Pirelli Classic Marathon rally.

"The Cobra's not for sale," says John. "I'm taking it abroad with me. But the Sociable will be in the auction. It's the third oldest known surviving AC in the world, registered in 1910, and that's its genuine registration, AC 1910. Mind you, with that wide front track, short wheelbase, tiller steering and no front brakes, it's lethal at high speed. It will do just over 35mph if you're brave enough. The original owner was a teacher who opted for the weather equipment, about three guineas extra, rather than the similarly priced front-wheel brakes."



Small but perfectly formed: Dinky toys in the Atkins collection (top right) and a selection of automobilia

Other cars include a Ford Falcon from the 1960s, complete with a Paxton supercharger that boosts it to 350bhp. There's also a 1960s Austin pick-up truck in British racing green. I ask about the MG badge on the back. "Under the skin, it's an MGB," says John. "Quite quick. Surprises people. It was used to tow-start the race cars at Goodwood last year."

There's a shelf full of old Dunlop boxes, inner tubes, puncture repair kits and other essentials: "When they closed Fort Dunlop in Birmingham, I bought some sealed crates, not knowing the contents. Those old boxes of valve caps and stuff were in them."

John and his wife have decided to move to South Africa. They have no connections there but have found a place 30 miles from Cape Town which they could not resist. "We run a bed and breakfast business as well," he says, "and it seems a good idea to carry on with that, but in the sunshine."

Francis Tuthill is still scratching his head: "Well, I've been out there recently, and I must say you're moving to a wonderful part of the world. Keep one of your cars and do my historic rally there in September!"

- The John Atkins Collection of Motoring Memorabilia was sold by auction in Cropredy, Oxon, on March 17 2001.

Original article from Telegraph.c.uk at:
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/motoring/main.jhtml?xml=/motoring/2001/03/13/emfgo13.xml>



COMMITTEE DETAILS

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that subscriptions are due and should be paid to the treasurer ASAP or by 31/07/07, whichever is earlier. **WCWA** subs for the year ending 2007-2008 are R240.00 pp.

Family Membership of WCWA is R195.00 pp.

AWSA subs are R100.00 pp.

Any member who is experiencing cash-flow problems is invited to discuss the matter with the Chairperson, in order to come to an interim arrangement.

The Committee would like to remind members who do allow their membership to **lapse** that they will be expected to pay the **visitors fee (R25)** for each meeting that they might attend thereafter.

Important Note

- When making out a cheque, please make it payable to the "**Western Cape Woodturner's Association**" (**NOT** just the initials "**WCWA**"). It costs the Club money if not done correctly, since the bank will no longer accept these cheques or altered cheques.
- The Club will in future bill offenders with the charges incurred.

BANKING DETAILS

- Western Cape Woodturners Association
- Bank: Nedbank
- Savings Account Number: 2204012882
- Branch Code: 120405

PROPOSED WCWA PROGRAMME FOR 2007/8

- February 20th video on oval turning.
- March 19th product demonstration (details to be announced later).
- April 16th AGM and turning challenge.
- Forest walk date still to be finalized.
- Possible family outing, suggestions from members will be welcomed. The

final details will be given once they have been finalized.

FROM THE MARKET PLACE

Stihl 017 petrol chainsaw



Excellent condition. 350 mm bar (between sprocket centers) gives a comfortable 250 mm deep cut. Complete with sharpening kit, multi-tool, spare chain, spare air filters, instruction manual and safety manual.

R1250 Cash

(Having bought a larger Stihl some two years ago, I find I'm not using this one enough to justify keeping it. A new Stihl this size would set you back just on R2000)

Regards as always –

Ken - 083 651 4993

3-in-1-Multi purpose table (Planer, Circular saw and horizontal borer) R 2 000-00 Contact Dennis Laidler 021 797 7755 or 082 365 2755

2007 AWSA Congress thermal mugs R55-00 each. Contact Gigi Laidler 021 797 7755 or 082 485 8399

Woodturners Masterpiece Variable Speed Lathe 4 Sale.

Tool Mate MC 36 as new (- 3 yrs old not+). Contact: John Derrick: 021 558 3317 / 072 851 7115

AWSA 2008 CONGRESS:

PROGRESS REPORT

For those who are forgetful, have a blockage when it comes to remembering dates, suffer from old timers disease or have a poor filing system and cannot find there registration forms or last Turnaround magazine AWSA 2008 takes place from Thursday evening 3rd July (Registration) to lunchtime on Sunday the 6th July.

We would once again like to remind you that we are offering a R50.00 discount for those members who have registered before the 29th February 2008. So don't delay get those registrations in now.

Having not received any feedback on the topics that we had proposed for presentation at the congress the conference committee will start finalizing the program and the presenters. Your committee is now concentrating on some of the peripheral issues that go to make a successful conference.

We are currently approaching potential sponsors for either sponsorship and /or items that we can raffle.

In addition we are also approaching a whole range of suppliers for goody bags and contents for these goody bags. In this respect we are hoping to get some really meaningful handouts.

We are also currently following up on Bed and Breakfast accommodation and will be doing an inspection of the University accommodation. We are not in a position to include details of accommodation in this newsletter but will send out details of accommodation as and when members register. We will also post accommodation information on the AWSA website within the next month.

A small reminder: John Wessels little treasure challenge – the items submitted must fit into a box or space frame measuring 150mm X 150mm X 150mm. There are some very nice prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd and a special prize for novices. There are no excuses. You can make a little treasure even on the smallest lathe. So let's see 100 little Gems entered into this competition.

Having had a very successful exhibition in Pietermaritzburg we are proposing to invite the Pietermaritzburg Art loving community to the instant gallery and are also considering throwing open the Auction evening to this group. We would therefore like to encourage all our members to place their best pieces on display. For those who wish to sell their wares we will sell for them with a commission going to AWSA funds. Most galleries pitch the commissions at 40% so maybe we have an opportunity to sell our wares with a 30% commission going to AWSA funds. (Any views on this ?? Please feed back to Dennis Laidler.)

Our aim is to build up AWSA funds so that AWSA represents more than just one conference a year or one overseas presenter at our conferences. We already have a number of overseas turners in mind for AWSA 2009 and would love to be in a position to invite two of them.

Clyde Neumann
Conference Convenor



Nomination Form (WCWA Committee) 2008/2009:

I hereby nominate:
as a committee member for the Western Cape Woodturners' Association to serve for the 2008/2009 term of office.

Signed Proposer: Date

Signed Seconder: Date

Signed Nominated: Date

Please note that all nominations must be with a current committee member before Wednesday 19th March 2007.