

# HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC

## NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2008

(Greg Croker)

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> saw a sunny day with 21 of us assembled and welcomed by Lindsay for a day of demonstration amongst the flowering wattles and sunshine.

After a short discussion Lindsay went straight into a short Show & Tell starting with Robert's toolbox.

Rather an exclusive box based on radiata pine, (custom designed to excel for a confirmed woodturner/woodworker), showing contrasting surian wood dovetails a couple of lift out sections etc all varnished and nicely finished to perfection.

Lloyd showed a large and beautiful, say 14 inch, Sydney Blue Gum bowl. Made with vertical sides and approximately 6 inches deep; it was finished nicely with Stylewood.

Martin showed two items, a vase-bowl and a medium sized bowl both made from 'darkish' possibly spalted poplar. This colouring made both pieces quite unique.

John presented a nice jacaranda bowl with a peripheral rim and a Blue Gum bowl about 7 inches in diameter, both good examples.

Finally all the items, mushrooms, coasters, egg cups, memo holders etc produced by Club members to be sent to Norm MacPhee, together with the mushrooms sent by Jim Abbott and Norm were displayed in an array for all to see. (We ended up with 61 items exported on 21/8/2008 so a good effort all round – see photos and attached file).

After a good warming lunch we discussed a few Guild items,

Urgent and necessary - please buy tickets for WoodTurn 2008 ASAP - \$100 see me or BH&E: I have some to buy at this meeting so please bring you money

Buy your WoodTurn Raffle tickets today, 5 for \$5

Pay your fees, if outstanding, today.

Also,

Blue Mountains Woodturners 'SURFACE DECORATION WORKSHOP – turning, carving and beyond'. Get a couple of others to go with you to this function on Saturday 20 September to see our Convenor and others demonstrate from 10 am, see attached dodger and consider car pooling from the Club?

Notice was given of our AGM will be held at our September meeting; need for committee nominations, ideas etc etc.

Today's demonstration was the manufacture of a small footstool with turned legs and its extension to procedures for a wine table production.

Lindsay started with an explanation of the general principles required, followed by the turning of one of the four matching legs.

Discussion of the legs' proportions and the design of the stool's edge boards with rebated (to allow for the fabric seam) and figured edges (made by router or simply using a screw protruding from a wooden block), occupied much of the time prior to assembly.

Assemble to legs and edge boards and glue together, dowels are best used for the assembly rather than mortice and tenon construction. Run interweaved webbing across the base for the cushion to rest on and staple tightly, or use a plywood base with the foam glued to the board. If plywood is used drill a couple of holes in the board to facilitate cushion flexibility.

The cushion is composed of two parts, foam with a finer dacron fibre cover to improve the flexibility/utility. Shape the cushion and dacron prior to topping with the chosen fabric to achieve a tight fit over the cushion and fixing the turned over double layered seams of fabric to the rebated sides with staples. Overlap at the corners will require additional caution with the pleats before fixing to get the best appearance. A deeper rebate into the corners will probably be necessary.

Attach a border around the footstool, hiding the staples and seams etc. which could be leather, ribbon or braid, using hot melt or studs as desired.

It was agreed that the resultant stool was a very worthwhile project for the 'QC Manager' or the home.

A discussion followed on the manufacture of an 18" diameter wine table made entirely of wood. The table's design was discussed in three parts. The table top, the pedestal and the 3 legs.

The table top can be made from maple, cedar or coachwood, cut out on a bandsaw and edge routered, (or turned if an outboard rig is available) and is best coated with nitrocellulose lacquer which is most resistant to marking.

To facilitate attachment to the pedestal glue and screw a wooden baton under the top at right angles to the grain in the table top with a hole drilled to accept a spigot at the top of the turned pedestal.

The pedestal is turned between centres using a template, (from a table of known suitability in order to get an eye-pleasing result) and allowing an area near its base to accept the 3 support legs. The usual care should be taken to ensure success with the between centres turning!

Manufacture of the 3 identical legs with the grain running 'parallel' to the legs, for best utility, using a bandsaw to cut all 3 at once, cleaning-up the edges with a router. Again choose a proven design rather than developing a unique design.

It was suggested that dowels be used to join the legs to the pedestal mainly as this is simpler than mortices and tenons. Adjust the legs to give a level tabletop and then glue.

Join the table and legs to the pedestal using epoxy resin preferably coloured to match the wood.

Two nice projects for homework eh! Otherwise a free choice for Show & Tell on Sat September 13<sup>th</sup> from 11 am.

Till then.....please keep turning.