

# HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC

## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2009

(Bert Gude)

Today's meeting commenced at 11:30am with 21 members present, in addition to 3 visitors from the Northern Beaches group namely Jack and Marj Butler and Gordon McKenzie. Lindsay Skinner welcomes the members and visitors on a bright sunny day as well as one potential new member to the group.

The meeting was then adjourned whilst Greg Croker then conducted the AGM (See separate minutes).

The meeting resumed with Greg Croker reporting on news relating to the SWTG's activities. Greg was to follow regarding the distribution of SWTG membership cards which to date had not been received. Also the next bi-monthly meeting of the Guild would be held at the Northern Beaches group on Sunday 20 September and all are most welcome to attend.

The Christmas dinner would be held on either the 4<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> December, date to be confirmed and was proposed that it would again be at "The Hawkes" at Eastwood. Members were asked to ensure that Greg had their current email addresses, in order that they receive the monthly newsletter and any other item of interest.

Ian Raper advised that the Castle Hill men's shed was starting up and they were looking for woodturning tutors.

Lindsay showed an Ozito variable speed router that had been donated as a prize for this month's raffle.

Our S & T segment commenced with Ian Raper showing a blank of Jacaranda and Camphor Laurel that had been glued together and had been turned and shaped on the outside, the blank measured 500cm long and 40cm in diameter. (We look forward to see the completed item next month).

Martin Nielson showed a split turned item, turned from Camphor Laurel. It was of oval shape with a set of 2 external ribs that had been flattened for the item to sit flat. That had been hollowed on the inside face to form a bowl shaped hollow. Martin had also turned a lidded box on a pedestal that had had flutes routed along the external side of the base section in a vertical direction. The difficult part came when the flutes had to match up on the lidded finial section with those on the base.

Keith Day showed a bowl turned from Deodar Pine that had an insert in the top made from Huon Pine. The insert had a trailing leaf pattern that had been carved and pierced on its face. The whole turned had been finished using 2 coats of Stylewood.

Russell Pinch showed a bowl with sides that flared outwards from the base. The timber used was Jacaranda and finished using Shellowax.

John Markham displayed a drinking vessel that had been turned from Brazilian Mahogany. The vessel comprised of a low base and then flared out gently to the top.

Colin Hunter had taken a piece of River red Gum burl and turned a bowl shaped hollow on the top side of the blank. Revealing the rich red colour of the burl underneath the surface of the timber. Colin also showed the pepper mill that he had turned from Camphor Laurel when demonstrating at Lalor Park group. The colour of the grain highlighted the turned mill. He mentioned that one of the members was making his own polish and if we were interested they were only too happy to provide the recipe.

John Talbot had turned a drinking vessel with a small pedestal foot from Radiata Pine. The sides of the vessel were relatively long and quite thin.

John Knight (now that the tests are over) displayed his “Ashes Urn” – true in size of 125mm high to the original held at Lords. The urn was mounted on a “stone” plinth and the two handles had been carved, the urn had been turned from Camphor Laurel and stained to match the colour of the original.

Rusty Manola had turned a nicely shaped bowl with a roll over rim from Camphor Laurel.

Harry Jones displayed a number of large bowls and platters that had been turned from burls. Some of these turned items had nicely shaped wide rims and could grace anyone’s dinner table. (*Well done Harry, Ed*)

Greg Croker on his recent travels had collected a wooden set of small cutlery utensils that had turned handles and the remaining sections had been carved by hand.

After a BBQ lunch, Lindsay introduces Jack Butler from the Northern Beached group who was today’s demonstrator. Jack commented that his interest in lidded boxes commenced with seeing Simon Preen turning and then further when Guilo Marcolonga added scalloped bases and finials and then even further when Lois Green turned segmented boxes and that is what he intends to demonstrate today.

The steps are similar to producing any turned lidded box but some are essential.

- Firstly cut your pieces of timber to the correct angle on both sides and size. Usually a segmented box has 12 sections and cut at an angle of 30 degrees, the accuracy of the cut is important. Jack displayed the jig used to cut to the correct angle and uses contrasting coloured veneers 0.6mm in thickness between each piece of timber.
- Assemble the pieces of cut timber together with veneer inserts and glue up using Technique Glue – this glue provides a good hour of working time before it sets. The glued up timbers can be held together using a large O ring screw clip. Also it is a good idea to glue up on a sheet of plastic – Glad Wrap. This will prevent the glue up blank sticking on whatever it is resting on.
- After the glue has set, prebore the centre of the blank in order to be able to insert a plug. Remove the plastic wrap and O rings and mount the blank between centers on the lathe.
- Turn the blank to a cylinder using a detail gouge and mark out 1/3 for the lid and 2/3 for the base. Part off partially leaving a spigot on the base of the lid section.
- Using a detail gouge initially shape the outside of the blank. After parting off the lid section, mount the base section in a chuck and proceed to hollow out the base using a bowl gouge. Cut a recess on the rim that will be the same size as the spigot on the lidded section.
- Mount the lidded section onto the base – ensure that it is a tight fit, bring up the tail stock for support. Proceed to shape the top section using a detail gouge.
- Glue in the timber blank in the lidded section for the finial and put aside,
- Complete hollowing out of the base and finish off by sanding through the various grades and apply a finish.
- Remove the base and mount the now reverse the dry lidded unfinished section in the chuck and hollow out the base and then finish off by sanding and applying a finish.
- Rechuck the base section and fit the lidded section onto the base, complete the lid and finish turning the finial, sand and apply a finish the lid.
- Part off the base and then reverse and mount the base in the chuck in compression mode and carefully complete and finish the base.

Our thanks to Jack and his able assistant Marj for a very informative afternoon.

Homework for next meeting is a segmented lidded box. Gary Light will be next month’s demonstrator showing how to do offset turning.

Keep Turning