



The Woodcrafters

TAURANGA WOODCRAFTER'S CLUB NEWSLETTER

Issue 238

January 2012

Vice Presidents Report;

Well here we are almost at the end of the first month of the year. Time really ticks by. Doug is away, so I am left to write this Presidents column.

Thanks to group 6 for all those ideas you gave us, and for that afternoon tea. It was a most interesting afternoon.

It was good to see two new prospective new members at our meeting, Maree Clemmett and Peter Hoggard.

The Royal Easter Show on the 5-9 April in Auckland, and sounds interesting. Make sure you mark this date on the calendar. Let's submit some pieces from the BOP and show the Aucklanders what we can turn down here.

Just to remind you again we require a replacement for Paul our treasurer, as his circumstances have changed and he will not be able to continue after the annual general meeting. We also need someone to replace Ralph our workshop manager, as he is unable to continue because of health problems. Please give these positions serious thought as without willing Club members, our Club can not function efficiently.

The Cancer Society really appreciated our efforts in organizing the wig stands. Lew and Laureen, thanks for organizing this.

Just a reminder about our working bee 9am Wednesday 15th Feb at the Club rooms for a big sort out and tidy up.

Thought to ponder

The frog at the bottom of the well thinks the sky is only as big as the top of the well, if he surfaced, he would have an entirely different view.

Peter Seaton
Vice President



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TWCC Committee;

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Jim Reilly 577 9574

Workshop Mgr.;

Ralph Harding 544 0830

Wood Person;

Mike McCarthy 575 2991

Committee;

Barry Kenworthy 533 3747

Harry Bimler 572 2071

Grant Parker 544 9373

Roy Tregilgas 574 7405

Club Meeting;

3rd Saturday afternoon of each month 1.00pm at our Clubrooms.

Clubrooms;

16 Yatton Street Greerton Tauranga.

Correspondence ;

P.O. Box 9270 Greerton Tauranga

Secretary E-mail;

Geoff Warth; gep@xtra.co.nz

Club Website;

www.taurangawoodcraftersclub.org

Next Meeting;

Saturday February 18th.

Group on duty

Group one, Woodcarvers.

Demonstration-Speaker;

Committee Meeting;

There was no Committee meeting this month

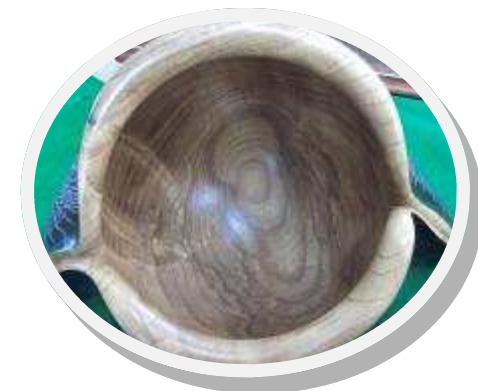
General Meeting;

Members in attendance; 31members attended, plus 2 visitors.

Working Bee; there will be a working bee, on Wednesday 15th February, at 9am to clean up the Clubrooms.

Raffle; Mike McCarthy won the raffle.

Critique; There was a large amount of items on the table today. Derek Kerwood did the Critique. Derek also showed us a jig he had made that could be clamped the lathe chuck, and do little off-set turnings.



WHATS ON

Turnfest in Australia; SeaWorld Resort & Water Park, Surfers Paradise, Gold Coast, Australia. Turnfest is Australia's largest and longest running woodturning symposium.

For more information contact David Drescher. E-mail; ddresche@ptusnet.com.au
Website; www.turnfest.com.au Next Event 22nd, 23rd, 24th & 25th March 2012

Lake Taupo Woodworkers Guild

9th-11th March 2012

Friday 9th. Start and set up.

Saturday 10th. 9am. Official Opening. Dinner at 6pm, and more turning till 10pm for those who are keen.

Sunday 11th 8am start. Final raffle and Prize Giving at 1pm.

Event details.

Lake Taupo Woodturning Jamboree to be held at the SPA HOTEL TAUPO.

For further information contact Jeff Downes. Phone (07) 3765621. E mail jkedownes@slingshot.co.nz

Tauranga Woodcrafter's Club Annual Scrollsaw Workshop

Saturday 31 March 2012 9.30 am to 4.00pm. Clubrooms, 16 Yatton Street. Tauranga

Event Details;

Fretwork, piercing, Bevel & Compound cutting with Jacob von Holzen and Intarsia with Barry Kenworthy. Please bring your own Scrollsaw if possible
Morning tea, Lunch and Afternoon tea provided
Cost \$25 per person

Registrations to Laureen Tubby
470 Papamoa Beach Road, Papamoa 3118
Phone 07 5720104 Email ltubby@xtra.co.nz

Otago Woodturners Guild 20-22 April 2012

Event Details:

Otago Woodturners turning weekend at Waiora Scout Camp, Silverstream Valley Road, Whare Flat, Dunedin.

Cost: \$160 (includes accommodation (bunk beds) on site and meals from Friday night dinner until Sunday lunch).

If staying overnight please bring your own bedding/sleeping bag, towels etc. (mattress and pillow supplied). Carpark space is available for parking campervans but no power points.

Day visitors must pre-book meals for catering purposes.

There will be a Trade Display from W R Owen Turning Supplies and raffles.

Last day for registrations for catering purposes 9 April 2012.

All enquires and registration forms contact Leah Jelgersma (Secretary/Treasurer) 03 453 1174 or email otagowood@gmail.com





Our Guest Speakers/Demonstrators were; Seth Douglas, Tas Davie, Mike Buck, and Roy Tregilgas, and they were showing the different jigs they had made.

Seth Douglas had some jigs for using with a router etc., a sash clamp he made, which not only clamps the timber together, but holds it flat as well.

Tas Davie showed us how he cut the sponge rubber disc with the Scrollsaw, using a circle cutting jig he made, and a couple of small fans he had made from computer fans.



Mike Buck showed us his wood bending jig which he used for making the handles of the wooden baskets he makes, using thin pieces of timber. He also showed us the jigs he used, to cut the wedge shaped pieces for the lid of this box, as well as other jigs for making different parts of the box. He had made a jig like the triton saw for cutting accurate mitres too.

Jacob von Holzen showed us how he glued up the thin pieces of wood he needs when making his boxes, by nailing two strips of wood onto the bench a little wider than the pieces and tapping in two wedges to bring the pieces together, then putting bricks on top to stop them from buckling. He showed us his disc finishing jig which he uses on his sander. The disc is first rough sawn to shape first, and then the centre of the disc is placed on a pivot spike and rotated against the sanding disc to get a perfectly round disc.

Roy Tregilgas showed us some jigs in a toy making book; jigs for drilling a hole in a dowel at right angles and at an angle, drilling holes in wheels etc.

Thanks Group six Toymakers for all your jig ideas.

Selby West





Group Reports

Group One; Woodcarvers; 2nd Monday

Six members , Alan, Geoff, Tom, Peter, Ivan, and I attended the first get-together of the year. Ivan brought along his relief carving, framed and finished for a light-up display. More talking than work, but each getting along with respective projects.



A few days before Christmas I spent an afternoon at Jean Crabtree's place, together with Michael Stimson and his wife Barbara. Despite his serious condition, Michael was bright, and interested in the doings of the Carving Group and wood and woodworking in general. He's currently in care at Althorp Hospital.

Next meeting 13th February 2012

Ken Hawkeswood Ph. 5780074

Group Two; Woodturners; 2nd Tuesday afternoons, 1.30pm

Group Two commenced the year 2012 with the January Meeting at the Clubrooms, on Tuesday, January, 10th 2012. eight of us were in attendance. The Topic was mainly to do with parting tools etc., by request. Tools and shapes made from the old wide hacksaw blades. What shape was the best was on our minds? It didn't seem to matter, and it was your choice, as it is a simple task to change the shape to suit. Many thanks to Warren Howie for the afternoon tea. Alisdair Field needed advice for a piece he was making. The problem was solved.

We will meet again at the Clubrooms on Tuesday, February, 14th, 2012 at 1.30pm.

Seth Douglas Ph. 576 5815

Group Three; Woodturners; 1st Saturday 9.30am

Group Three doesn't have a January Meeting, because the first Saturday is usually too close to the Festive Holidays, consequently as usual there wasn't a meeting in January, 2012.

However, we expect you to be rearing to get stuck in, as of Saturday February, 4th 2012 at the Clubrooms, 9.30am. Hope you have a bright and Prosperous Year, 2012.

Seth Douglas for Jim Reilly 577 9574

Group Four; Woodturners; 1st Tuesday

There was no meeting this month for this Group.

The next Group meeting will be on Tuesday 7th February 2012. Paul Grainger-Allen will be in



the chair. There is possibly a chance to visit Paul's workshop in Rotorua.

Mike Harold Ph. 575 0767

Group Five; **Scrollsaw and Intarsia**; 1st Wednesday

Welcome to the New Year. Nine members attended our group meeting on Wednesday 4th January. It was pleasing to see so many there, so close to the New Year holidays. Jacob had completed the marquetry of the English cottage and had it on display. Barry had three different intarsia versions of "Rolly dogs". Lew, the honorary member of our group, has been experimenting with laminating, and brought along a pepper pot and three small bowls he had made. Rob spoke to the group about the price differences he had found, when sourcing various tools that he needed. Planning is underway for our Scrollsaw Workshop to be held on 31 March.



Our next group meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st February commencing at 9.30am.

New members always welcome, please telephone if you have any queries.

Laureen Tubby Ph. 572 0104

Group Six; **Toy making Group**; 2nd Saturday

Nothing to report for the Toy Group. Our first meeting for the year will be on Feb. 11th at 9-30am. Hope you all had a great Xmas and New Year break. See you in February.

Roy Tregilgas Ph. 574 7405

GROUP 7 **Beginners Group NIGHT SHIFT** 1st and 3rd Wednesday night 6.30-9.30pm

The new year got away to a good start with a full attendance for our Jan 18th meeting. The good news is Ian has been able to come along to the group nights again at this stage, lets hope it stays this way as that will mean his wife's health is holding up. Everyone has a project they are working on from bowls to a lidded box and scroll saw work.



Deanna had a big “oooooops”, when she took a big chunk out of the side of her bowl which really devastated her, but as every one knows that can happen to the best of us, and it certainly won't be the only time. It is all part of learning and also gives you that opportunity of improving on the design?. Our Feb. Meetings are on the 1st and 15th at 6-30pm, there will be a longer break than usual to the March meeting because of the way the dates fall. Happy crafting Roy
Roy Tregilgas 547 7405



From Your Editor's Desk;

Hi everyone,

The first month of 2012 is nearly finished, and we seem to be starting to get our Summer. I hope everyone is well, and rearing to start those new ideas you have in mind.

Mike McCarthy rang to tell me about “Cellmate Batteries”, who repack Ni-Cd and Ni-Mh cordless power tool batteries etc. if you have a good make of battery drill, that you don't want to throw away, but it requires new batteries , it could be a good option.

They are in the Bay of Plenty and can be contacted on 0800 308 464. Mob; 022 657 4041
E-mail - cellmatebop@hotmail.co.nz

As I did not have the same amount of reports, plus photos this month, I had to find something else to fill in the extra page, so I thought this article on Lathe safety may be of interest to our newcomers on woodturning, and maybe to our experienced turners also.

Selby West

WOOD TURNING SAFETY RULES

1. **Know Your Equipment and Yourself;** Never operate a Lathe or use a cutting tool, chuck or other accessory without first understanding its operation and limitations. Read and know the instruction manual of any Lathe you use. Never perform a procedure or technique that you are unclear about or uncomfortable with. If you are in doubt, stop and ask for instruction. Know your personal limitations.
2. **Police Your Environment;** Keep your work area clean. Store tools safety. Don't allow cords to run across circulation ways. Do not start your Lathe if people are in harm's way. Ensure that there is adequate light and ventilation. If you are observing someone else, do not place yourself in harm's way.
3. **Keep Yourself Catch Free;** Long hair must be tied back. No clothing, gloves, jewellery, or watches may be worn below the elbow. Necklaces and loose clothing that might be caught by spinning parts, must not be worn.
4. **Inspect Your Lathe;** Inspect the Lathe for damaged or missing parts before operating it. Before you start, check to ensure that the speed is appropriate, the drive belt is tight, all locking devices are secure and chuck keys and adjusting wenches are removed.



- A. Always spin the wood at least one full turn, before turning the Lathe on every time.
 - B. Always stand to the side when starting up a Lathe.
 - C. Always unplug the power supply before adjusting the belts or touching the parts that spin.
 - D. Never leave a spinning Lathe unattended.
5. **Wear Safety Equipment;** to operate a Lathe or stand near an operating Lathe, you must wear eye protection, full face protection when turning bowels. Dust masks are highly recommended.
6. **Secure The Wood;** Ensure that the wood is securely held. Turn between centres when ever possible, and always with imbalanced pieces. Use a slow speed when first roughing out a piece. Never use wood that is cracked or has other serious defects or significant protrusions.
- 7. Practice Safe Techniques;**
- A. Keep your tools sharp. Do not force a tool or use it for an unintended purpose. Reposition the tool rest frequently to keep it close to the work.
 - B. Keep your balance and do not overreach.
 - C. Always turn the Lathe off, and allow it to come to a complete stop before adjusting the tool rest.
 - D. Always keep your hands behind the plane of the tool rest. Always keep the tool firmly against the tool rest. Always hold the tool firmly with both hands.
 - E. When using a shear cut, rub the bevel. When using a scraping cut, always keep the angle between the wood and cutting edge at less than 90 degrees.
 - F. When finishing, always remove the tool rest. Use only paper towels, never woven fabric. On exterior surfaces, apply the towel to the underside of the piece with the wood spinning counter clockwise. On interior surfaces, apply the towel in the lower left-hand quadrant also with the wood spinning counter clockwise.
8. **Focus on Your Work;** You may not operate a Lathe if you have drunk alcohol, or taken medication that carries an equipment operations warning. Do not operate a Lathe if you are tired or emotionally upset.



Woodworking Tips

Accessories that improve performance

The bandsaw may be one of the easiest stationary tools to "amp up" with numerous accessories that improve performance or convenience. Some do both. Not every saw needs all these improvements, but yours will probably benefit from at least a few of these upgrades.



Boost power and performance

All the accessories in the world won't help much if your bandsaw stalls during demanding cuts or shakes like an over-caffeinated chihuahua. Smooth out the tremors and get as much cutting power as possible with these upgrades.

Cinch up your belt

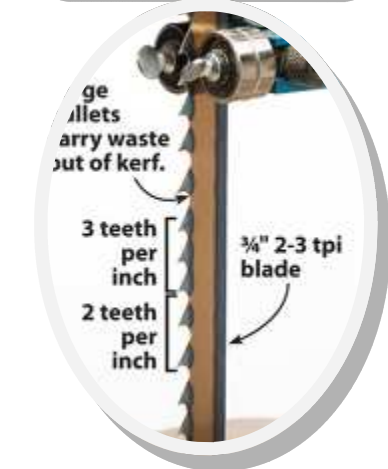
When the V-belt that connects the motor pulley and drive pulley sits in one position too long, it can take on a permanent curve, or "set," where it wraps around the pulleys, causing a nasty vibration. Replace it with a link belt that stays flexible and absorbs vibration better than one-piece V-belts. Buy it by the foot, then adjust its length to fit your saw by adding or removing links.



Put some teeth into it

Resawing wide stock requires all the power a bandsaw has to give, so make the most of your saw's efforts by stepping up to the widest 3-tooth-per-inch (tpi) blade your saw accepts. A wider blade flexes less for truer rip cuts and its larger surface area dissipates heat better so the blade stays sharp longer. The aggressive hook angle of the teeth on a resaw blade cuts quickly, generating a lot of sawdust. The large gullets clear that waste faster.

A blade with variable pitch, alternates sections of 2-tpi and 3-tpi. The 2-tpi sections cut quickly, even through the widest stock your saw handles. The 3 tpi sections reduce vibration, giving a relatively smooth finish.



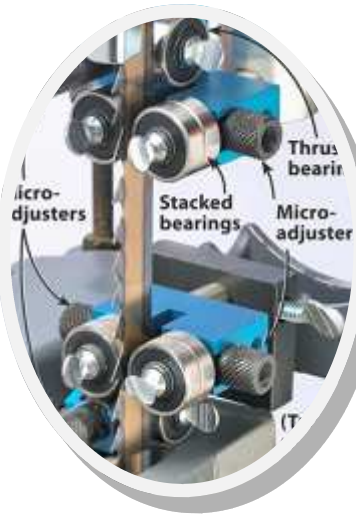
Checks and balances

If replacing the belt doesn't calm the jitters, check for out-of-balance wheels. To do this, remove the blade and drive belt so the wheels spin freely. Working on one wheel at a time, make a mark on the inside edge of the rim at its lowest point. Give the wheel a gentle spin, wait for it to stop, and make another mark at the bottom. Do this five times. Randomly-spaced marks mean the wheel is balanced. But a cluster of marks in one area points out a heavy spot and indicates the wheel needs to be balanced.

To do this, clean the wheel rim directly opposite the marks with rubbing alcohol and allow it to dry; then apply self-adhesive wheel weights to the cleaned area, starting with 1/4 ounce. Repeat the "spin test," this time making marks with a different-colored marker. Grouped marks again tell you to apply more weight, or change the amount or position of weights already in place. For small adjustments, divide the soft metal weights with an old chisel or knife.



Guidance counseling: Keeping the blade and workpiece on track



Without guide blocks or bearings above and below the table, a bandsaw blade would wander like a four-year-old on her first ride without training wheels. Like that child, bandsaw blades, and sometimes the workpiece, need guidance. Keep them on track with these enhancements.

Get your bearings

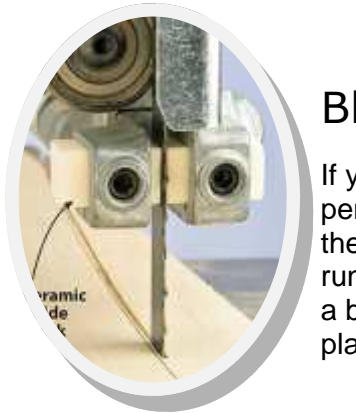
Guide blocks, with their large surface area, work especially well guiding wide blades, while roller bearings create less friction and heat buildup. Stacked roller-bearing guides from Carter Products, above, combine the best of blocks and bearings. They also have toolless adjustment: Twist a thumbscrew to loosen a bearing; then fine-tune its position with the microadjuster. Cinch up the thumbscrew to lock the bearing in position.

Specialized guide bearing



A specialized guide bearing helps narrow blades (1/8" and 1/16") track true during curved cuts. The rear of the blade rides in a groove in the bearing's edge. The groove provides side-to-side support and the bearing reduces friction.

Block party



If you don't have the budget for bearing guides, ceramic guide blocks provide an inexpensive upgrade from the factory-supplied metal blocks. The large, flat faces provide the same solid blade support, but the ceramic material generates less friction, so they run cooler. That translates into longer blade life. Installation is as simple as loosening a bolt or thumbscrew to remove the steel blocks, then putting the ceramic blocks in place. They wear so well that the manufacturer guarantees them forever.

Fence me in



For resawing and straight-line rips, a good fence is essential, yet many saws come with no fence or a poor-performing one. The Kreg fence packs a lot of features in an affordable package. It pivots to account for blade drift (the tendency of a blade to pull to one side). For sawing thin, narrow stock, mount the fence with the wide face down on the table. It can then extend under the guide assembly, even with the assembly close to the tabletop. The fence easily lifts off the rail for quick switching from straight cuts to freehand work. An optional micro-adjuster makes precise fence movements easy.



Tension is a good thing



Like any of us, a bandsaw occasionally needs relief from tension - the tension needed to keep its blade cutting true, that is. Relieving that tension extends the life of the wheel bearings and tires, and makes blade changes possible. These accessories simplify taking your saw from tightly wound to relaxed and back again.

Put the squeeze on

Bandsaw springs, like all of us, lose their ability to bounce back as they get older. If yours no longer has enough "oomph" to tension wide blades, replace it with a heavy-duty aftermarket spring. On most saws, installation goes quickly and doesn't require any special tools.

We found that after installing a stronger spring, it took fewer turns of the tensioning knob to properly tension a blade. With springs to fit most sizes of bandsaws, this inexpensive upgrade offers a lot of bang for your buck.



Take 'er for a spin

Small tensioning knobs prove difficult to grip, don't provide much leverage, and only allow half of a rotation before you need to change your grip. Turning them can literally be a pain. Mount a 6"-diameter cast wheel with a spinning handle, and adjusting blade tension becomes easy. The chrome finish prevents rust and looks nice, too.

Instant tension relief



A quick-release lever applies or removes blade tension in a snap. In the up position, the mechanism keeps the blade under tension, ready for use. Pivot the lever down toward the table to release all tension for blade changes and between work sessions. The middle position relieves stress on the wheels and saw frame, but provides enough tension to hold the blade in place while mounting a blade and checking tracking. This upgrade took about 15 minutes to install, a small investment quickly regained with faster blade changes.



Time to lighten up

No bandsaw add-on will help much if you can't see your work. So defeat the forces of darkness with a task light. The magnetic base on this one sticks to any steel or iron surface, and the gooseneck puts the light exactly where you need it. Eleven LEDs shine a bright spotlight without the heat of incandescent bulbs. Juice comes from four AA batteries in the base, or use the optional AC power cord.



THE TAURANGA SENIORS CLUB

Where Seniors learn Computing from other Seniors;

Our courses are, 2 hours, one day a week, and range from 4-9 weeks per course.

Our Learning Centre is at Unit 70, Historic Village, 17th Avenue, Tauranga. That's just uphill from the now-closed Wickham School. We have our own drive-in entrance. Turn right once through the gateway and then park.



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Robert Thomson Ph. 576 3960

Club/Guild Newsletters;

This Club/ Guild aims to assist members to improve their woodworking skills. Not all such activities occur in our Club premises, and some activities or events are promoted through this Newsletter and others directly to members in some other ways, but they are still Club/Guild activities, please support them. These activities may include personal and group tuition of members by other members (we all try to help one another for the benefit of the Club/Guild in this way) sessions in member's workshops, wood-gathering, events promoting our activities to members of the public, and other such activities and events.