

HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC.

Established 1983

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2016

Nineteen members including Doug Midgley, new member John Gillespie and returned member after sickness David Harrison were welcomed to our first Saturday meeting for this year.

Items of general interest were mentioned, namely rosters for training on Thursdays and later in the year on Saturdays, blank cutting and culling proposed for Wednesdays later in March, the arrival of the bowl saver and some carving tools, more honey dippers please, a possible John Ewert demonstration and assistance/advice for the Shed's to be up-dated website. The Thornleigh Traditional Tools sale will run on the 28th February and some spare banksia logs are available for free (ie DIY flower vases). The Shed will set-up and move wood to a storage area next door in the National Can Coy's parking area ASAP and planing has commenced for the layout and purchase of the dust collection system.

Next was Information Exchange lead by Brian who showed his adapted pen blank press



utilising two (foreign) coins (a 2c and a 1/2d) set in wood blanks with Morse tapers such that compression can be affected on the lathe. Next Brian showed a multi head chisel tool imported via eBay for \$A55 which looks just the thing, and included a perspex chip shield; see photo.

Show and Tell was run by Lindsay and first was Elwyn's banksia log flower vase, quite a



novel use of the trunk and bark, also shown was a neat thin walled cherry bowl.

John Edwards showed a WIP jacaranda wood tall vase with some deep hollowing and interesting grain; also a nice box from the same

wood with a small finial turned from dark camphor laurel.



Lloyd showed a high sided bowl from spalted she oak with a semi gloss lacquer finish.

Keith Day showed a selection of

toys he made some time ago to stimulate our toy production, and as well a beautiful small macassa wood threaded lid box with a pointed lid.



Finally Ian Raper showed a Shed-made lathe steady ready for use; he proposes to rebuild it with some metal parts before its general usage. He had also been busy turning and moulding a vase supported by three laminated legs and some rare earth magnets; the contrasting woods of laminated white cedar and queen ebony formed an interesting and not easily made item.

After lunch Lindsay welcomed Doug to the lathe to demonstrate for us. As a Life Member of the Guild, Doug is well known to us and having recently returned from the Norwegian Ship Turners Cruise we were all keen to hear his story and to watch his demo.

Doug had brought a DVD of the cruise but sadly not all of it would play on our machine so he mainly spoke of his trip, the renowned demonstrators as trainers, the turning while at sea both day and through the long nights, the training and swapping of ideas and techniques as well as the set-up of lathes on the wharves for the locals' enjoyment, and the enjoyment of seeing many of the small ports along the western seaboard of Norway. A great opportunity for all woodturners.



After showing and discussing some of his earlier turnings Doug moved to the demonstration with the main emphasis on the use of his recently acquired ring tool for simplified internal wood removal. To demonstrate, a Christmas bell shaped turning was started using the traditional methods on the outside and then the ring unit was discussed and used to turn



the inside with ease right down to say a 1.5 to 2 mm wood thickness. The operation progressed with virtually no chance of catching when used on both wet and dry blanks and following the external contours to give a constant wall thickness was 'easy.'

After the above and other demonstrated usages, mainly coves, and the sharpening

techniques applicable to the tool, (using a cylindrical ceramic rod on the ring's inside) we all were most impressed. This may not be correct but the tool is believed to be one of the newer Sorby range of chisels.



techniques applicable to the tool, (using a cylindrical ceramic rod on the ring's inside) we all were most impressed. This may not be correct but the tool is believed to be one of the newer Sorby range of chisels.

To finish the day some general turning techniques were shown including adding texturing to the bell and a couple of quick methods of turning toy Christmas trees to go with the bells.

After a lot of questions and answers stumps were drawn at about 3:15 completing a great day. Many thanks Doug.

Next meeting Saturday 12th March from 10 am.

