

# HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC.

Established 1983

## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2016

Eighteen members gathered for our monthly meeting and were welcomed by co-hosts John Markham and Greg Croker as convenor Lindsay was working in Albury.

Housekeeping and items of interest were mentioned: HMS Friday night meeting with Cabot's 'Shed paints' range and its wood finishes demonstration (all urged to attend), John Ewart's demo day to be later in the year, again all asked to attend, next meeting is our annual Autumn Raffle, one more camera/projector assistant still required, Thursday woodturning training agreed needs a jig-up (a formal training program will be written) and Keith's carving training is available to all but sadly underutilised, Wednesday wood blank assessment and culling will start late April, Sunday and weeknight Shed opening was advised as a possibility including a suggested change from Saturday monthly meetings to a weeknight and finally the purchase of 6 DVDs was approved.

Also please keep bringing in your honey dippers and remember blanks are available from John.

Brian exchanged some information on micro-mesh abrasives advising that 12,000 grit equivalent is now available from a local supplier in 4 x 3 inch pads at \$31 for a set of various grades. For pen finishing Brian sands the CA finish to 400 or 600 'normally' and then works from 1,050 to 12,000 grit with micro-mesh gaining excellent results on both wood and acrylic. These pads can be washed to rejuvenate and it is claimed that at 12,000 grit the finish is 3 microns and near optical glass quality! More details see Brian.



Show and Tell began with Simon Begg's prizewinning turnings from the recent Castle Hill Show. Shown were a Tasmanian Myrtle bowl with included small shells in the flange recess set in casting resin. The procedure involves sealing the



wood, gluing the shells to the wood to preventing moving or floating, applying heat from a heat gun to remove any resin bubbles and then removing excess resin once dry with a very sharp scraper. Finish the resin up to 1,200 grit and use Microcel lacquer, as an oil finish generally looks duller.

A spectacular metallic finished South American mahogany disk bowl very heavily textured was shown; texture first and finger rub in the silver coloured finish which was purchased from the local art shop at Hornsby. Shown thirdly was an Australian red cedar bowl with

'heavy' sides and textured grain patterns done with various sizes of shallow Dremel drilling. All three turnings were first class and each picked-up a prize., great work Simon.

Simon also brought a platter for unknown wood with poker-work that was signed *H and J Jones* and had been lent to him to identify. Of course it was Harry and Jen's work from an earlier time....lovely memories.

Elwyn showed two bowls a largish oval camphor bowl showing good technique on the oval chuck and a part finished sheoak bowl which he is making for ex member Les Blackett who is in



poor health. Les has given his Mastercraftsman brace and bits for inclusion in the coming raffle.

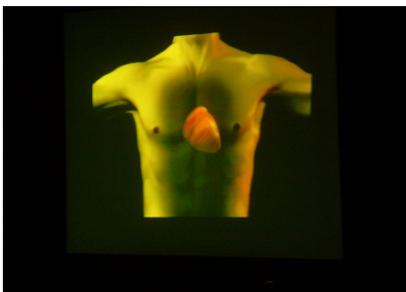
John Edwards made 3 small bells a la Doug Midgley's recent demonstration which are ready for the tree in December.

Finally Tim showed a window locking key with his custom turned handle.

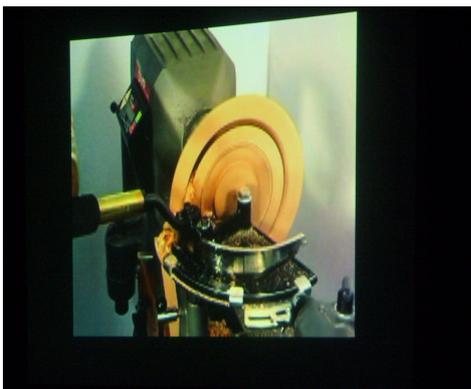


Colin showed 2 spinning tops recommended for our charity turnings for the Shed which are most appropriate; plans will be issued soon. Colin also mentioned his work

with 'Tech Help for the Disabled' and is seeking volunteers with an engineering background.



After lunch the Heart Start Defibrillator DVD was shown again to ensure members remain aware of its usage and operation. This DVD was followed by a short apology regarding the proposed demonstration of our newly acquired Woodcut bowlsaver;



too big and tight and a second fitting is being fabricated to overcome this problem, then we will have a re-scheduled full-blown demonstration.

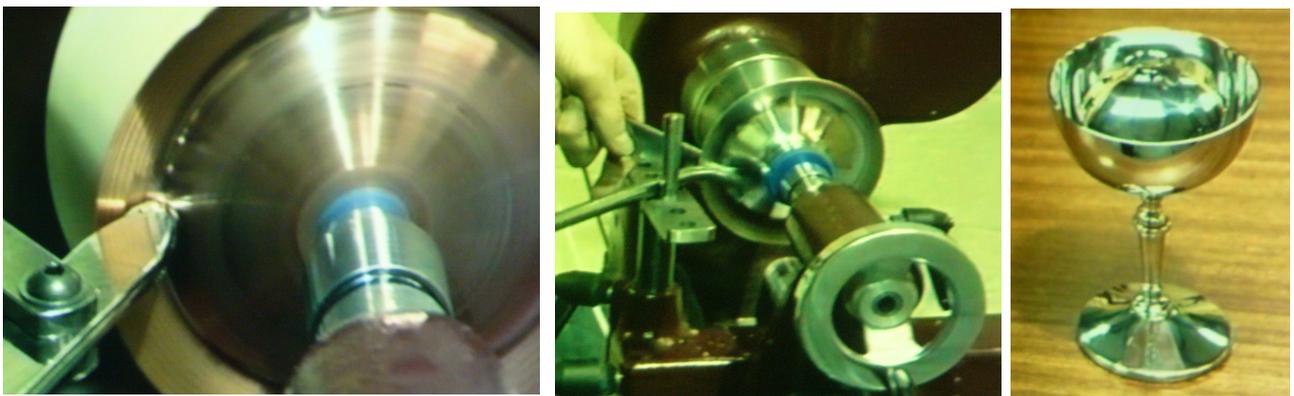
All was not lost and the Bowlsaver operation training video was shown which was well received

so now we are all anxious to see the real thing. If you have some recently felled (wet) soft wood say over 4" and 12" in diameter available that could be used in the demonstration this would be greatly appreciated; please see John.

Finally a Sorby DVD on metal turning (on a wood lathe) was shown and as most members had only read about this form of turning the 20 minute demonstration was most



absorbing. The use of thin discs say 125 mm in diameter and 1 or 2 mm thick of presumably available metals (some annealed), aluminium, copper, silver, gold and platinum



at least are available. Shown were tools that rubbed/rolled the metal over a mould of plastic (nylatron?) or wood held on the headstock of the lathe. Paste wax was necessary as a lubricant for the process. Now we know how the big silver jugs etc are made.

If you missed this you could ask to borrow the DVD or see if you can find it on Sorby's website or on You Tube.

Metal turning finished the day, a day quite different to what was planned but 'turned-out' quite worthwhile.

See you all on Thursdays for wood turning and carving and for our Autumn Raffle on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April.

