

HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC.

Established 1983.

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2020.

Nine apologies left only a small attendance to be welcomed to our March meeting featuring two You tubes on the sourcing, drying and utilising wet timber for turning. Both videos are presented by US turner Shawn Graham, the first *Free Wood and How to Dry it for Woodturning in a Small Shop* and the longer one *Make a \$20 Bowl in 20 Minutes* covering some areas not well known to many turners; but firstly housekeeping news.



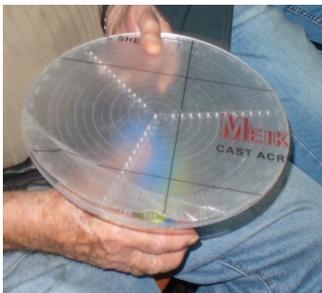
The Coronavirus. The week following our March meeting The Shed was closed and before the month's end the nation was restricted such that meetings were not possible and people are to remain in their dwellings except for defined essential purchases and only 'individuals or pairs' local walking is legal until further notice.

During the month Bill Hart returned home from successful surgery, another 300 honey dippers were turned and sold, Brian completed the Sauerkraut Crusher and the Shed President suggested the turners 'de-incorporate.'



Members were asked to consider how best our 2020 Saturday meetings should be run particularly regarding demonstrations and other technical content. The subsequent coronavirus will greatly impinge on our thoughts. To this end initial suggestions are to establish S & T and Information Exchange via photos and text on email, or find and advise good yet-unseen wood You tube videos and text items, while later ideas are to investigate 'Zoom.' Please keep sending your ideas ASAP particularly if you are aware of Zoom set-up and suitability.

Information Exchange was run by Brian who showed a clear perspex 300 mm protractor like circular plate (ie 360 degree markings at the circumference) with holes and diameters marked at 10 mm intervals for marking-out blank diameters



prior to bandsawing. Also shown was an out-sized compass suitable for scribing very large diameters.

Greg showed a pair of Ozito brand earmuffs with the added feature that amplifies all noises but only up to 85 dba. Above this value the earmuffs are 'quite' normal.

Tim rescued a couple of vintage and badly dilapidated



Beechwood planes unsuitable for repair but with wood usable for smaller turnings. Well done Tim.

Colin had 3 second hand items for sale, a 10" Makita Mitre Saw, an 8" Grinder and a Hare & Forbes 2 Bag Dust Collector, all sold on the day.

Elwyn has about 8 litres (4 x 2 L) of End Sealer available on return to The Shed.

Show & Tell. Elwyn showed a number of bowls, a medium classical 230 mm diameter camphor laurel bowl with good design and finish; a small pine plate with some graining



and sparkling finish, next another two camphor oval bowls with straight sides and an imposing dark grain streak featured in one and turned reptile-like legs glued under both



bowls. These legs were turned between centres and off-set at one end which became the



subject of a worthwhile discussion, see photo. Tim showed a bradawl handle made to replace a broken vintage tool handle. Tim used a Sharpie black felt pen to accentuate his design.

Lloyd showed a gift of a large heavy platter brought back from



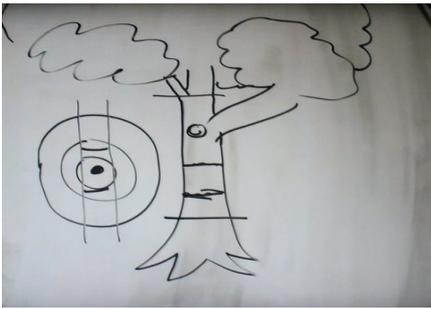
California USA. Made from local oak and say 15" in diameter the grain and

design are impressive, however the change in climate? has caused a crack to develop at the rim which will no doubt get attention soon.

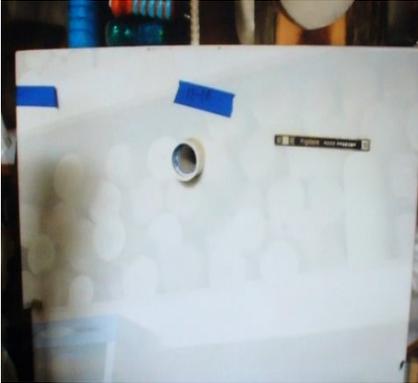
Before lunch the shorter video, *Free Wood and How to Dry It* was shown building on our previous knowledge and 'adventures' collecting the recently storm felled woods.

This video production is a no-holds-bared presentation given by a practical and very time conscious turner with techniques for us to utilise; viz. collection sources, the need to

breakdown to billets quickly, the prevention of cracks, end sealing, storage techniques and drying methods and times.



A number of points were raised on the video topics which lead to a good discussion.



Included here are a few stills showing some of the more important aspects but far better is to watch Shawn's actual techniques; the time is approximately 28 minutes, and here is the address:

<https://youtu.be/nc1SmIILQh8?list=TLPQMjgwMjIwMjCkAgIWAVYaNQ>



Greg followed on by showing a number of wet Australian Red Cedar blanks and rough turned bowls, all are end sealed and ready for careful slow drying in plastic bags or tote bins to fully dry before their final turning. Note the 25 mm thick wall to allow for (oval) warping during drying.

The second video *Make a \$20 Bowl in 20 Minutes* commenced immediately after lunch and was similarly packed with 'cunning' techniques and ideas. Shawn certainly wastes no time



producing his market bowls.

Bandsaw jigs, Glasser screw chucking, direct turning of partially wet square bowl blanks (with extreme caution if copied), spigot removal using Cole-type bowl jaws, milk acrylic paints (with black undercoating) together with oil sealing of the bowl interior and an acceptance of minimal shape distortion as the bowl finally dries are all interesting concepts, used here to advantage, and are techniques which we should consider?



Again viewing the full video is best, challenging and recommended; it lasts for 53 minutes so here is the link, enjoy:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwu0R5a1QGc&t=1930s>

Future meetings. Plans were for Elwyn to demonstrate Oval Turning in April however, the Coronavirus and its necessary isolation requirements mean that all 'live' turning meetings are postponed for some months at least.

As stated earlier during this time there are opportunities to maintain connections via email or better, multi interaction using *Zoom* to run virtual demonstrations via our laptops and/or mobile phones.

So keep in touch.....and stay healthy.

For further interest or to join-in woodturning go to www.hornsbymensshed.org.au