

HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC.

Established 1983.

eNEWSLETTER JUNE 2021.

A welcome to 16 members and a guest on a Long (holiday) Weekend opened the day.

The day commenced with another routine showing of the Heart Starter video to keep us all up-to-date with the required knowledge and actions. Some questions were asked and resolved. The Double Impact Grant for The Shed was successfully completed following generous donations from members and other sources.

At this time, the end of June, NSW has just gone into a fortnight of Covid lockdown until Friday 9 July. The Shed is shut until this date thus affecting all plans until the lockdown is lifted, hopefully on this date.

Our next Saturday meeting is scheduled for 10 July and the Winter Informal Lunch on Wednesday 28 July may also be impacted by Covid.

The enquiry for turning approximately 48 small navel navigational map training markers was accepted and about 50% of the larger units (300 mm high) are part completed thanks to the members working on the various operations. The smaller 50 mm 'beacons' will be commenced once the others are finished.

Charity bowls and boxes are in production for Christmas and a selection was displayed as copy examples at the meeting, thanks to Colin, Pierre, Brian and John Edwards. About 30 have been requested.

A variety of pens for Christmas gifts continue in production under Brian's supervision.

Ian McKay and Greg continue with the improving lathe layout.



Progress on all the above will depend on the Covid advice and regulations; meanwhile we may need to offer a few Zooms or adopt early the suggestion of WhatsApp to keep in touch?

For this Saturday Lindsay completed his presentation from May's meeting but prior to this a selection of 4 Youtubes were shown, 3 from Alan Stratton and one from 'Pa1947.'

Allan produces a weekly turning video and recently offered;

- 1 Plum and Oak Box <https://youtu.be/GhnHOr1BkIU>
- 2 Celtic Knot Vase <https://youtu.be/Jl5pVQ0Owcs>
- 3 Celtic Knot Segmented Bowl https://youtu.be/jRC_K09ccoI

Pa1947 produced in a recent video;

- 4 A Segmented Vortex Bowl <https://youtu.be/sodQISh5DDs>

which was of interest as, like the Celtic Knot turnings, it uses a 'simple jig to enhance the woodturning effect.'

Rather than describe the details it is recommended that these short Youtubes be viewed, so only a few notes or photos will be included regarding the notable points of these video demonstrations.

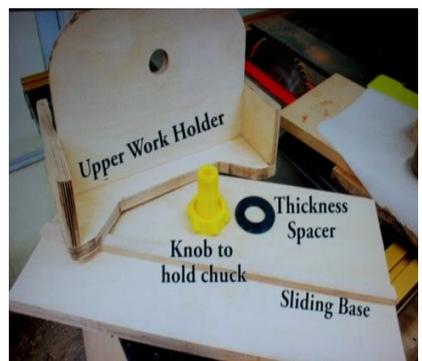
For the Plum and Oak Box, notable were;

split screen video production (common to all 3 Stratton turnings),
the choice of woods,

nail/pin face plate,
 large chuck with short Shark's Jaws,
 square scraper for straight walls and a flat bottom of the box,
 use of wet sanding (oil and beeswax), (common to all 3 turnings) and,
 walnut oil finishing, (again common to all 3 turnings).



For both the Celtic Knot turnings,
 notable were;
 use of a simple jig/sled and using hot melt glue,
 multiple knot inclusions,
 complexity of the segmented bowl,
 jig to cut away the bowl turning's body,
 use of epoxy to glue the knot laminates
 in place, and
 yellow plastic threaded 'knob' to hold the chuck in the sled.



For the Vortex bowl, notable were;
 saw jig/sled for the bandsaw,
 care when gluing the segments in place,
 tool rest's angled jig to slice the laminated platter,
 the banjo clamp,
 use of 3 applications of Sanding Sealer,
 sanding to 400 grit prior to EEE type paste sanding followed
 by polyacrylic, then sanding again with 400 grit and EEE and
 finally a proprietary wax polish to achieve the highest
 possible lustre on the acrylic finish.....'looks like glass.'



As expected there were a number of questions and expressions of interest on the above videos and it is hoped that members will follow up these examples to 'broaden' their turning techniques.



This Saturday there was no Information Exchange and Lindsay moved directly to Show & Tell.

Firstly Lloyd showed a tall, straight sided box from Huon pine finished nicely with an Orange oil compound.



Brian also showed a tall, straight sided box showing a couple of lamination bands, at the base and the middle of box. Wood types were not declared but the unit was well finished with EEE and Glow friction wax/shellac.

Rusty turned a couple of ducks for a grandchild, one painted and the other lacquered. The balance or stabilisation of these turned toys was in question and the addition of a heavier weight on the round base was suggested. Lead shot would normally be used but as these were toys this was not recommended.



Mark showed a trial and incomplete Celtic Knot as well as 3 pens turned following the course run by

Brian Hawkins recently. The Purple heart and an unknown hard black coloured wood were polished to a medium lustre.



Pierre turned a couple of bowls, a large well grained bowl with a rounded ring wall top and believed to be from one of the native fig woods. The other bowl was smaller and possibly from mulberry. Both bowls were finished to a moderate lustre.

Keith brought in a large high sided diagonally carved camphor bowl, and quite spectacular. Made



some time ago Keith was uncertain how many hours were needed to turn and carve the bowl. Also shown was a segmented bowl made from a single board (similar to the method used for the Vortex bowl above). With grain matching for each layer it was not easy to determine the method of construction.

John Dear showed a large 250 mm bowl with banded sides made from jacaranda well turned and finished with EEE and Shellowax.

John Edwards showed a WIP standard goblet yet to be waterproofed. A good design made from jacaranda waiting to be finished.

To finish the day Lindsay completed the final details from his last month's demonstration by initially showing a battery operated angle grinder. This Aldi 'Ferrex' product has been found useful for sanding using either Velcro or sticky backed sandpapers on larger turnings or particularly 'cranky end grain' work. This was also found suitable for use on other woodworking eg sanding or even profiling.



Next a suggestion for a future bowl turning demonstration with the inclusion of complex leaf shapes (maple or plane leaves) onto the bowl's walls and exterior. Suggested for demonstration soon?

Finally a guide to bowl design using some unusual methods to gain these incorporated features.

1 A thin walled 230 mm diameter bowl with high and thin sides was turned from old Morton Bay fig wood, and to augment the the aged features the bowl flange was randomly scalloped and serrated on the bandsaw and then carefully burnt. Once sanded and polished this bowl could be mistaken for 'the real thing.' Not photographed was a high base spigot which lifted the bowl and added to its acceptance.

2 Another large bowl with a flanged rim was shown demonstrating the affect of a base which lifts the bowl off and above its resting surface. This bowl, made from Hoop pine, is classic in its design and finish when viewed from above, and lifted-in-appeal by the 'unseen' pleasant and complex base.



3 An infested poplar blank turned to form a 200 mm open bowl incorporating all its grubs and borers, before being placed on an ant hill. Once the 'ant food' had been removed the turning was cleaned, sanded and finished to give a unique and pleasant result. Note the attention paid to the bowl base which has again added elegance to the design.



4 A camphor laurel three cornered bowl unusual, and somewhat difficult to turn, with its appeal greatly maximised by its simple and visible base.

5 Two bowls from Neil Scobie's designs. Both the Wave and Erosion bowls after turning were carved and/or ground to shape using mechanical hand tools such as a Dremel giving these unique designs. In order to keep with the uniqueness both bowls are rounded at the outside and the base, and fitted with 3 or 4 claw legs. The woods used were poplar and elm.

Note: The DVDs on these turnings are available for loan.



Thanks again Lindsay, together with the videos we have been given quite some wide ranging ideas and procedures to develop our turning abilities.

Our next demonstration day is planned for Saturday 10 July.

Covid restrictions will no doubt determine what actually will happen and timely email advice will be issued closer to this date.

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