

HORNSBY DISTRICT WOODTURNERS INC.

Established 1983.

eNEWSLETTER MAY 2022.

RUOK? Please remember to advise another member if you need some assistance: COVID is still around.

Not much to talk about this month other than to suggest that the visit to Dural Mens Shed is proposed for a Monday in August when Ted Utik has returned from Queensland: more details later.

The other point was some criticism as to tidiness around the lathes and associated shelving. Please keep your usual check on tidiness etc and report any necessary mechanical requirements for attention. Work on the shelf replacement is scheduled to be done soon.

A number of charity jewellery boxes have been made during the month bringing our total to about half the requirement. If needed wood from the Shed is available.

For today our demonstrator is member John Edwards on the subject of *Toy Batmobile Production*. You will recall that in 2018, pre COVID, a couple of members made a 'test run' of wooden Batcars for our Christmas charities which were well received. So this year a run of 30+ is proposed with more members contributing to the production and with John leading the team.

The toy is approximately 220 x 80 mm with its fin reaching to about 100 mm high, see photo.

While a full description and specifications are available to members John outlined and showed a brief description of the turning and other work involved.

The photos show two members, Ian and Colin working with John on the body, chassis and fin.

The choice of wood is unimportant as the batmobile body is finally spray painted gloss black.

The body is made in pairs with two 72 x 35 mm x 300 long Oregon or pine wood glued together with a strong paper laminate between to allow after turning their separation. Turning involves shaping the bodies to give the streamline effect peaking at 70 mm wide. Use steb centres for turning to minimise the possibility of premature splitting; otherwise strong tape or screws can be used to hold the blank together while turning.



Use a wide 25 mm or greater sized chisel to part the bodies and remove the laminating paper: do not saw away the unturned ends of the blank. Drill a 10 mm hole through the centre of each now separated body 130 mm from its rear. Cut a slot 10 mm wide from the rear to the drilled hole. Square off the round profile of the drill hole.

For the fins, cut 'back to back' two fins following the template provided from 10 mm plywood. At the centre cut the two 25 mm holes and bandsaw the fins down the centre 'back to back' to give two identical fins.

For the chassis, cut a 70 x 20 x 300 mm lengths of dressed timber and glue it to the base of the body and clamp until dry.

For the jet exhaust, turn and shape for a streamlined effect, drill 3 mm countersunk centre hole for holding screw and sand etc.

For the assembly, cut away the surplus wood from the body,



(and the attached chassis) at the rear end of the turned area the similarly at the front. Shape both the back and front using a belt sander to give a streamlined appearance.

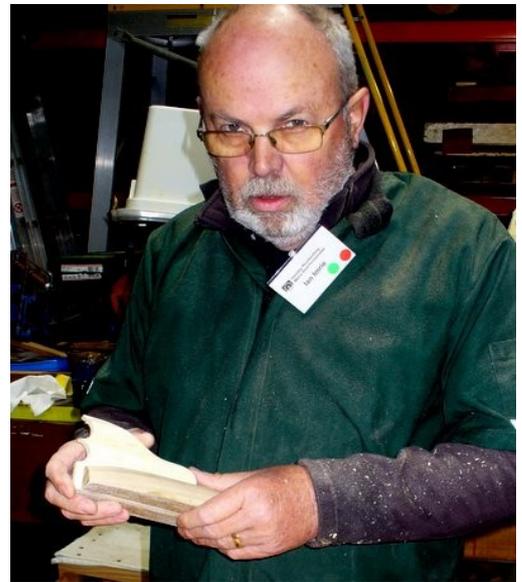
Using a jig drill the 8 mm axle holes through the chassis.

Mount the fin in the slot from the rear and position for maximum effect, glue in place and when dry fill any voids with bog and sand smooth. Consider screwing the fin in place to the chassis to hold firmly if necessary.

Drill a small hole in the rear of the car to accommodate the exhaust screw.

Regarding the wheels, axles and hubcaps. The 45 mm diameter wheels, the 7 mm round bar for the axles and the nickel plated hubcaps are all purchased and applied directly to the otherwise completed car.

For the radiator decal and cabin windows, the former is cut from printed photographic paper, the windows from white plastic insulation tape and both applied after the final black spray and prior to the coat of clear lacquer.



Clean up the turning and assembly filling and sanding as needed, cut the axles to length and prepare for spray painting.

Paint the body with three coats of acrylic gloss black and the jet exhaust likewise but with red acrylic gloss. Mount the decal, and windows using PVC glue, and the jet with glue and a small screw.

Add a dab of red paint to cover the jet screw and when dry give a fair coating of clear acrylic lacquer and the batmobile is done.



There are a number of jobs to be completed for this current batching and should you want to help please contact John.

The adjacent photo shows some of the previously turned and fabricated Batmobiles.

Information Exchange.

Brian again conducted this session and began with a couple of his own purchases and a locally converted kitchen utensil viz. a cabinet saw converted into an Asian style vegetable slicer. In addition to

filing away the saw teeth Brian had turned a complimentary new handle. Brian also has a smaller saw that he plans to adapt soon. We were advised that a significant volume of vinegar was expended to clean away the rust.

Secondly Brian showed a Chinese imported Sand Blaster equipped with sand and ready to use with an



additional air compressor and containment box. At \$A47 post paid this looks a very useful and economical workshop tool.

Also from China (but via Melbourne from Bang Good) was a quaint 6 inch 18 volt battery operated chain-saw with built-in light: and a 240v 50 cycle charger, safety gloves and goggles plus a page of English operating instructions all for \$A40.02. This has to be another bargain proposed for rough cutting of turning blanks.

Nick showed a (quality) box of Forstner like drills from 6 to 13 mm diameter from Total Tools at \$59.

Greg showed a small hand held double diamond honer, two diamond hones (grades 400 and 600 grit equivalent), a leather strop and on the fourth side of the unit a knife sharpener. For about \$19 from McJing this is a useful tool.

Mark had been busy making parts to reservice a vintage router plane; yet to be finished and/or improved.

To finish some Show & Tell.

Ian McKay showed two bowls with some minor cracks and voids which had been 'treated' with epoxy and a set of colourings ex China. Both bowls were turned from an unknown mid brown wood and



finished well with EEE followed by Glow.

Elwyn had turned three entries, 2 platters, and a large bowl. The platters showed interesting grain and a mystical brown 'sapwood' area in the smaller turning.

Geoff also showed three turnings. A large presentation bowl of unknown wood that glowed pink and showing lively grain (possibly eucalyptus species) with a smaller jacaranda inverted bowl attached below as a base. An interesting and formal turning. The other turnings were two charity jewellery

boxes turned and nicely finished with standard EEE and Glow treatment.



Tim had turned yet another 3 exhibits; all spurtles and made from hardwood. These were of similar size about 300 long and finished with some national icons above the handles. All were intended as gifts for international visitors. The thistle and gum nuts turnings were very eye catching.

Finally Greg showed a 100 mm simple bowl from a small tree root/tuber. Mainly scraped to finish, the colourings were quite exciting until a coating of beeswax (dissolved in paraffin oil) was applied which dulled the turning to become dark and uninteresting. A lesson well learned – be careful with beeswax and test it first!

Thanks John for your work on and presentation of the Batmobiles. We all now know what is happening and what we can do to assist should we wish to become involved. Well done.

Our next Saturday meeting will be on 11 th of June from 10 am.

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