



**VOL 08/11**

**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

**August 2011**



**It's amazing** what woodturners will do to gain an edge and push the boundaries in their quest for something different. Brendan Stemp, always the innovative craftsman showed us the ins and outs of turning wood and gumnuts encapsulated in Epoxy Resin, the result is stunning. He also showed how a Pepper Grinder was made using his uniquely designed tools. These were the delights seen on our special event day in July when 40 or more members and visitors gathered for Brendan's demonstration. These events do not happen without a lot of work by the committee. Thank you to all those who helped out on the day and to everyone who helped make a great day even better!

**Our condolences** go to David and Hope Coull for the loss of their daughter Karen Coates. Our hearts go out to you and your family.

And also, sadly, a former member of our guild, committee member of the Australian Woodturning Exhibition and renowned Woodturner and Tutor, Sue Leitch passed away after a lengthy illness. She will be missed in the Woodturning Fraternity.

**The Tealight holder challenge** was not a push over but once in the 'swing' of it someone went into overdrive. Where did you get those gorgeous candles Max? It's not true that one competitors' Tealight holder ended up with broken legs deliberately! (handicapped ? mmm. Fixed, it still looked great !. Well done to those who entered the competition. Winners will be revealed on Saturday.

**On Thursday the 25<sup>th</sup> of August**, Arthur and Graham Besley will entertain the young lads from St.Alfreds' Boy Zone. Thank you to those who made items for the boys to purchase for Fathers' day. Thursday afternoon is the deadline. Drop your items off to Ray at the workshop by 3.00pm.

**Bring along** all your Little Men and Women for '**John Atkinsons' Toys for Country Hope** competition. An award will be given to the member with the best and most outstanding toy. Remember its open to your own interpretation, the pattern is only a suggestion.

**Our AGM is this Saturday.** We will be calling for office bearers and committee members so we need people to be prepared to accept nominations.

After the AGM '**Gadgets**' are the order of the day. Bring along your Jigs, Tools, and other items, your Ideas will inspire others. Be prepared to discuss why and how they were made.

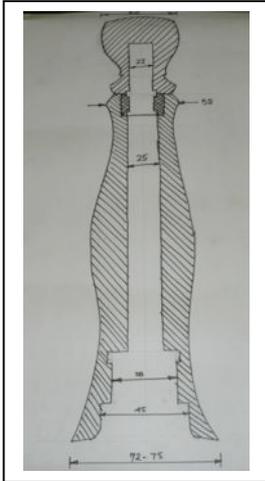
For those not well at the moment or have loved ones unwell we send our best wishes.

**Next Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> August 2011  
9am**

**Bring along your show and tell items and 'Gadgets'**

As this is my last report I would like to take the opportunity to thank each and everyone for their constant support. A special thank you to my committee it has been an honour and a privilege to work with you. Dianna!

## DEMONSTRATOR Brendan STEMP



In demonstrating how to make a pepper grinder Brendan came forth with many skill and tool tips helpful to woodturners.

After turning the huon pine to a cylinder the next step was to drill the centre hole. To assist with the drilling Brendan used a skew chisel making a small indentation, without a rise at the bottom, to start the bit going straight.



To make the wider hole with the two indentations at the bottom Brendan has had made a special tool with two cutters which can be adjusted for length and diameter and which will cut the opening correctly with one sweep.

Being now ready for the piece to be shaped on the outside Brendan produced his roughing gouge sharpened like a bowl gouge. He considers this to be the best way to sharpen a roughing gouge. The next step – sanding. Where possible Brendan uses the self turning tool with Velcro backed sandpaper because scratches are kept to a minimum. He then finishes with a mixture of hard shellac and boiled linseed oil applied with a rag while the lathe is turning.

When Brendan noticed a crack in the wood he proceeded to fill it with super glue and sanding dust. An oil painter's small spatula is ideal for doing this



### USING RESIN

Brendan has become an agent for Solid Solutions who make various types of resin. The one he uses most is C 606 which sets very hard and can be turned and polished much the same as timber. Sometimes he uses the resin on its own as a see through material, sometimes to hold things in grooves cut in timber and sometimes in a mould in which various materials are placed. Gum nuts, held in resin, produce very interesting patterns.

Brendan demonstrated how to mix the resin in a mould and insert various pieces of burl pieces. He proceeded to turn a mould he had previously set doing the turning like a piece of wood but using a scraper more than cutting tools. The finish can be done, as for wood, without showing scratches.



Do you sometimes have trouble finding a chuck key. Brendan doesn't!!!

**EXHIBITION PLACEGETTERS not yet featured**



John McBrinn  
Open  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Miniature  
item  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place Novelty Item



Michael O'Callaghan 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Lidded  
Container Intermediate  
Ray Smith 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Bowl Under 200mm  
Intermediate  
Rick Gilks 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Identical Pair  
Intermediate



**Brendan's Scraper**

Brendan Stemp sharpens his scraper with a "negative rake." The other side looks the same as this. In other words it looks a little like a misshapen skew chisel.



## KOONUNG WOODTURNERS GUILD INC.

Asscn No. aaaA 00337527

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Koonung Woodturners Guild Inc. will be held at the Koonung Community Cottage 109 is Koonung Road Blackburn North on

**Saturday 27th August commencing at 9.00am.**

The ordinary business of the annual general meeting shall be:

- (a) To confirm the minutes of the last preceding Annual General Meeting.
- (b) to receive from the Committee reports upon the operations of the Association during the last year.
- (c) To elect officers of the Association and the ordinary members of the Committee: namely , President, Vice-President, Secretary, treasurer and up to 4 ordinary committee members.
- (d) To receive the statement from the treasurer a report on the annual financial position
- (e) To set the subscription for the ensuing year.
- (f) To consider any other business which the chairman of the Annual General Meeting, in his discretion, considers to be business properly brought forward.

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION AND FEES

**In order to cover the fixed charges mentioned in last month's news letter plus the need to have finance for postage, stationery, miscellaneous items, small repairs, tea coffee biscuits etc. the committee unanimously recommends the following subscription and fees for the coming year.**

<b>Annual Subscription</b>	<b>\$45</b>
<b>Monthly Saturday Meeting</b>	<b>\$2</b>
<b>Voluntary raffle</b>	<b>\$3</b>
<b>Tuesday – Thursday Workshop - Monday nights</b>	<b>\$3</b>
<b>(\$2 Cottage Charge \$1 to Guild</b>	

E-mail received from [beverleycoghill@bigpond.com](mailto:beverleycoghill@bigpond.com)

I am sending this e-mail to you for some advice and help. I wish to have a table made with 2 pieces of Huon Pine which were given to me by Harold Irving's family. I have enough wood for table top and rails but not enough for the legs.

I miss Harold and Mary very much as they were my best friends for more than 25 years. I would love to honour their memory by having this gift wood made into an enduring piece of furniture to use and hand down to future generations.

I hope you can refer me to some one who is experienced in working with Huon Pine and leaving a part of it in its natural form. CAN YOU BE OF HELP?

Our sympathy is extended to  
David and Hope Coull

on the death of their Daughter  
Karen Isobel Coates

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Thur. August 25<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm St.Alfreds Boys Club visit

Sat. August 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting AGM  
Bring your Jigs, gadgets etc.  
Bring Country Hope items  
Show and Tell Items

Sunday September 11<sup>th</sup> Schwerkolt Cottage demonstration  
Demonstrators needed

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October Whitehorse Spring Festival  
Demonstrators needed (High Quality Items  
could be sold 20% to Guild)

Sat. November 19<sup>th</sup> Upmarket 109 at Cottage  
High quality items could be sold 20% to  
Guild

[If you don't have your badge and need one to obtain a discount see the secretary.](#)

### **Some myths ,truths and illogicals. You decide which.**

1. I can tell when my gouge is as sharp as it can be by the way it is cutting. I need to resharpen it to find out because I can't compensate for a borderline tool by good technique.
2. I can produce a better cut by cutting than scraping. Scraping is for beginners and the faint of heart.
3. I can learn to turn without practicing. Books, tapes, lessons, demos are all fun but really aren't necessary for me to learn. I don't need some expert insisting on his way.
4. I turn whatever I please and I don't really care what others think about my work. Peers don't influence my choices. Looking at outstanding turnings often depresses me.
5. I don't smoke and I'm not allergenic to any timber so I don't need to worry about dust. Too much caution ruins the pleasure of my hobby plus it slows me down.
6. Sharpening jigs slow me down. They might improve my grind but they take too long to be worth the effort.
7. The thinner the better. Only thin turning shows your mastery of the craft.
8. My face shield is more of a hazard than a safety device because it has too many specs of dirt and grime that won't come off. It's safer to see clearly.
9. Critical comments about my work are unnecessary. I know when my piece is good or not and I know why it is so.
10. Price has something to do with quality but good shopping is the best strategy. I will gladly pay for a truly excellent tool but would rather get it cheaply from a pile of tools at a garage sale.