



# FOREST HILL WOODTURNERS

## and COMMUNITY SHED

### NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 2023

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Another 2 batches of Honey Dippers to our friendly neighborhood apiarist with another 2 dozen ordered straight away, that'll probably be it until late February ~ March. That's another \$200 in the kitty, \$100 per 2 dozen, I know it's an odd way to cost them, but he orders them in 2 dozen batches. It doesn't sound like much but it does mount up pretty quickly over time for not a lot of effort. Just a couple of things to mention about quality: 1/- There needs to be no marks in the ends from the drive or live centres, so leave a little scrap at each end and part off, I can clean that up before I dip them. 2/- when the honey grooves are cut either go in on an angle with a narrow parting tool or cut the groove with a skew (easy to do, if you don't know how just ask), you can just go straight in if you like BUT however you do it make sure you sand off the sharp edges, remember some child (like me) is going to suck off the honey. 3/- there can be no chips, nicks, splits etc. knots and interesting figuring is OK in the handle part but not the business end, honey is anti-microbial but people still think germs hide in the cracks.

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> I was up at Eastern Turners, Mont DeLancy in Seville for a demo by Giulio Marcolongo and Paul Barton, Giulio's a well-known turner both here and overseas while Paul is relatively new on the scene and is an excellent deep hollowing turner, Guilo ranks him among the world's top deep hollowers. Both of these guys are presenters at the upcoming Turnfest. It was a really good day with Giulio and Paul working well together as a good comedy double. The first demo was a 4 prong base walking stick with Giulio demonstrating how to turn a long thin spindle without the use of a steady and also pointing out some improvements to Paul's techniques, it was great seeing some common problems and how to correct them. The second project was an off-center bowl with a carved rim done using a Vermeer Multi Centre Chuck. This is a screw chuck that allows you to off center the work up to 30mm then you can rotate the piece incrementally a full 360degrees while still off center. The chuck will always re-set to bang-on center when needed. A great piece of kit for a mere (cough, cough) \$455. The final piece was a 3 footed vase with the center off-set by 10 mm and carved on the outside using a sanding stick mounted between centers in the lathe. It was a great demo day, as usual, at Eastern. The next demo day should be early next year with, hopefully, Brendan Stemp. The cost for non-members was \$45 and I believe \$30 for members, from 9am to around 3:30pm with short breaks for smoko and a BBQ snag lunch. A day well spent! And Charlies' better half makes an excellent apple slice, it's not the only reason I always go but it's a major inducement. Eastern invited 15 other clubs with only one representative each from FHWT and Eltham Woodworkers attending, events like this need support otherwise they'll die out and we'll be stuck with nothing better than a bunch of Americans on YouTube.





Guilio (left) and Paul (right) turning a 4 footed walking stick on Vic Wood's old Woodfast recently acquired by Eastern.

Finally, don't forget we have both a website <https://www.fhwt.org.au/> (or scan the QR code at the top of this newsletter to your phone) with a members area and forum. We also have a Facebook page, (search 'Forest Hill Woodturners'). Both resources are under-utilized at the moment but the website and forum should be a great place for seeking advice.

On Saturday 18th Nov, Brian and Ken will be judging the Amazing Finial Presidents Challenge. Finish off those special Finials and get them polished and ready for judging— just bring them along on the 18th.

Decembers will be a quirky Christmas Tree decoration, don't forget the winner is the one who brings the biggest smile to the judges dials.

# Guidelines for the CAST award and Presidents Challenge.

## The President's Challenge.

As mentioned above, this competition will be judged during our next Demo Day on the 18th.

Ken Craigie and Brian Butcher will be the judges they'll be taking into account the standard of finish, the quality of the turning, biased to the amount of experience the turner has and also the amount of individuality and humour present in the turning. We are looking for quirky, interesting designs around the theme that's been set. The general idea is to see how big a smile you can get out of the judges, extra points for an outright laugh, while still maintaining as high a quality turning as you can produce. Once we settle down this will be a monthly thing with the winner announced at the Monday meeting or a demonstration day (whichever is best suited) and will be widely publicised in the newsletter.

The prize for this challenge will only be something minor, chocolates, bottle of wine or maybe a turning blank or interesting piece of wood etc.,.

## CAST Award:

Cliff's Annual Segmented Turning (CAST) Award, Cliff Walsh and Sid Limberis have agreed to judge the award and Cliff has agreed to make the trophy which will incorporate a plinth that a small plaque to which the winners name will be fixed.

This will be a perpetual trophy held in the display case at the club. This is a more serious competition and will be broken into 5 sections:

- 1/- True segmented turning over 5 years experience.
- 2/- True segmented turning under 5 years experience.
- 3/- Glue ups over 5 years experience.
- 4/- Glue ups under 5 years experience.

And

- 5/- Overall winner True Segmented Turning all levels of experience.

Whether the overall winner is a glue up or a true segmented piece will be entirely at the discretion of the judges.



*True Segmented Turning Example.*



*Glue Up or Laminated Turning*

This will be an annual competition with no set brief to follow, you're free to turn any shaped bowl or bowl form (urn, bowl & lid, chalice etc.) that strikes your fancy. For *all* entries you will be judged on:

Presence or Absence of the chuck recess in the base.: Degree or Absence of tear out.

Degree or Absence of (sanding) scratches. : Symmetry of the bowl.

Quality of the finish. : Overall design of the piece.

The glue up turning has been added to enable members unable or unwilling to invest the time in acquiring the woodworking skills required for segmenting.

I hope you'll all enter something in this competition,

Cliff and Sid will be happy to answer any questions you may have. The club has band saws, belt and disc sanders with a new 300mm disc sander. Also members are willing to help you, all you need to do is ask and you'll get help. So please help make this a success.





## Steam Box:

This is Rob's steam box used for steaming/heating timber in preparation for bending.

Simple construction driven by a small steam generator which all works really well.



**October 21st** was our outing to Robert Fanfulla's shed in Mooroolbark. He demonstrated milling of a slab. Great home made contraption which worked well.

We also saw Rob's well equipped shed with everything on full display. If only we all had the room to build such a great shed.

Big thanks to Rob and his family for their hospitality and having us in his yard and for putting on a great morning tea.

These pages are some of the pictures from the morning.



**IMPORTANT DATES and NOTICES FOR MEMBERS:**

Last day of turning **Saturday 16th December**  
First day back next year **Saturday 6th January.**

Increase to \$5 in door fee for demo days only at this stage.

The Forest Hill Woodturners and Community Shed website at fhwt.org.au is underutilised at present, so next year we are moving the Newsletter and lots more information about the club onto the website. So have a look at it and get used to using it more. If you have issues accessing the site please ask for help.

Anyone who has, or knows someone who has expertise in WordPress, please let me know at newsletter@fhwt.org.au (John)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CLUB IN 2024

As mentioned above the doors will open for 2024 on Saturday 6th January.

Don't expect much change as we are keeping sessions times the same as 2023. The Monday afternoon sessions were still light on during this year so we will still be looking to getting more along to use that time on Monday afternoons.

Our hall rental charges have been subsidised by Whitehorse Council for many years, but for 2024 we had to actually make a formal submission to have the subsidy continue. We are hoping there will not be any changes with our major cost.

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### DEMONSTRATION AND SALE TABLE DAY:

- On Saturday 18th November Tony Smith will be demonstrating

#### SAND BLASTING GLASS

This will be an inside and outside demo as the blasting does cause some bits and grit to fly around, but should be fun and informative. (No turning on this day)

- Also don't forget the SALE TABLE.

We won't be selling any tables, but it is an opportunity for you to bring along any old tools, workshop equipment or anything that you might want to sell.

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<b>MONDAYS</b>	Every Monday 9:30 to 11.30 AND 12:00 to 3:00  (May close early due to insufficient numbers)	Workshops, Own Project & Training  Toy Making, Round Table, Show & Tell.
<b>MONDAYS</b>	1st Monday, Every 2nd Month  1:00pm	Committee Meeting - No Turning  2023 October, December, 2024 February, April, June.
<b>SATURDAYS</b>	Every Saturday  9:30 - 12:30  1st Saturday—project  3rd Saturday— Demonstration day	Workshops, Own Project & Training  Special projects  Demos as Advised

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## COMMITTEE FOR 2023/24

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First aid: Judith Lim		<b>MAINTENANCE OFFICER:</b> TBA (volunteers?)