



Crosscut

◀ Stanley #5 plane – showing the component parts.

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Next Turners Meeting on Monday, 1st April 2019 from 18h00 at the Living Link Hall —
The Best finish off the lathe, without needing to sand – by Willie.
Wood of the Month – Oak– all the different varieties.

Next General Meeting on Wednesday, the 10th April 2019 from 18h00 at the Living Link Hall
Pony clamps, work-holding and fastening – to be confirmed.

News

4th March 2019 – Turners meeting. Frans Joubert demonstrated the method he uses to apply a durable finish to pens using superglue. Poena also showed a slightly different technique, also using superglue (CA glue). Both techniques have proven to be very durable in everyday use.

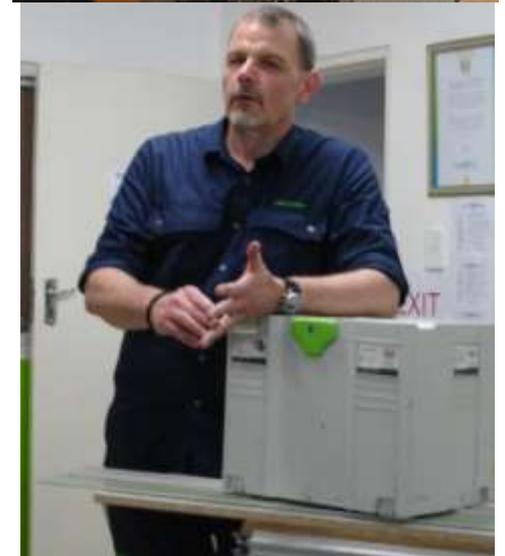
Woods of the month – Walnut – Chris van Heeswijk covered the walnut species. *Juglans Nigra* is black walnut, *J. Cimeria* is butternut; *J. Regis* is English walnut. Walnut shrinks quite a lot when it dries, but once dry is very stable, making it suitable for gunstocks and intricate cabinets. *Imbuia (Ocotea Porosa)*, also called Brazilian walnut, is widely used for cabinets and musical instruments.

13th March 2019 - General Club meeting. Greg de Villiers and Ernest Bender from Festool South Africa introduced Phil Beckly from Festool UK. Phil demonstrated the use and benefits of the TS55 tracksaw together with a Festool dust extraction vacuum cleaner. He showed the different blades available, the benefits of each and the resulting quality of cuts.

Club Notices



Buddy Lawson. Founder member and past chairman of the WWA, Buddy Lawson succumbed to a long battle with lymphoma on the 14th March 2019, aged 93. Buddy was always ready with a presentation of some method of work or jig. He would explain the details in his clear style – I could imagine him explaining just as clearly to his medical students in his matter-of-fact style how to remove an appendix. Buddy was a retired professor of surgery at Wits medical school – most of the older doctors that you consult these days were probably trained by him. Buddy chaired the WWA from 1993 to 1995, and at the time wrote an article on the WWA, which is reproduced below. Reading



it, you can almost hear his clear, scholarly explanations of how things worked.



Hobby-X 2019 – 7th to 10th March 2019. The WWA had two lathes in use the whole time and a well-stocked gallery. Joining the

WWA at Hobby-X in separate booths were the Pretoria club, Johan Kramer's Spirit of the Wood group and Schalk van Niekerk's One Good Turn, so woodturning as a craft was well represented.



Woodworking 101 – The first session will be on Saturday, the 6th April 2019 at the Albertskroon clubhouse, opening at 9h00, starting at 9h30 till 12h00. We will be making a cutting board from two pieces of clear pine, joined with a rub joint. You will learn how to cut and square up the two planks before gluing them together. In a follow-up session, once the glue is set, you will plane and trim the piece before finishing it off. The session is about basic hand tool skills, learning how to set up your plane and using it.

Trevor Pope will be facilitating the first session in Bobby's absence – please confirm your attendance by email to [tpope AT iafrica.com](mailto:tpope@iafrica.com), so that we can ensure we have enough material and bench space. Those who confirm their attendance will be given priority on the day if we are oversubscribed. There are 5 benches, with two vises each, so we can accommodate 9 people plus the instructor.

More details at the end of the newsletter.



Regular Events:

Monday Morning workshop. (Was toymakers) the first and third Mondays of every month, at 09h00 till 12h00 at the Albertskroon workshop. Meetings will be cancelled if they coincide with a public holiday. Pierre Mouton will open up the workshop.

Every Wednesday and Friday – Graham Rudings will open the workshop, but reserves the right to cancel at short notice. Graham is setting up an email circulation list for announcements and any cancellations. Please email Graham [grahamcr AT mweb.co.za](mailto:grahamcr@mweb.co.za) to be added to the list. Graham can be contacted on 082 900 0242.

Ken's Saturday Workshop. Ken Bullivant holds a Saturday workshop at his house in Boksburg. The location is 13 Franklin Avenue, Comet, Boksburg on the first Saturday of the month from 09:00 to 12:00. They decide on an annual project and work throughout the year making it. Individual projects are discussed and problems solved. Ken also offers private lessons too. Contact Ken on 082 809 0020 if you wish to take part.

SPIRIT OF THE WOOD - WOODTURNERS

Offering Woodturning lessons, One-on One Training, Classes and Club, Willing to assist persons with limited physical/intellectual abilities. Contact Johan Kramer on 083 251 0183 or Johankramer300@gmail.com

Saturday meetings

1. First Saturday – Bobby Bezuidenhout – Woodwork 101 for beginners. Contact Bobby on 083 873 3872 or [milesiabez AT gmail.com](mailto:milesiabez@gmail.com)
2. Second Saturday of month - Herman will open the workshop – all things turning related – 083-631-0501 [hermanpotgieteresq AT gmail.com](mailto:hermanpotgieteresq@gmail.com)
3. Third Saturday of month – Contact Pierre at 083 308 7917 or [pm9917 AT gmail.com](mailto:pm9917@gmail.com)
4. Fourth Saturday of month – Graham will open the workshop – 082 900 0242 [grahamcr AT mweb.co.za](mailto:grahamcr@mweb.co.za) If you plan to attend, please send your email to Graham, so that he can send out any last minute cancellations.

“SHOULD NO ONE ARRIVE BY 10h00 THE WORKSHOP WILL BE CLOSED.”

Please can the conveners complete the attendance register on the bar counter, so we can gauge attendance?

The closing up instructions must please be followed by the convener when leaving. Graham has placed the procedure in prominent positions in the workshop.

Winston Klein reports on the activities at the Albertskroon workshop for February and March 2019

Wednesday and Friday meetings are flourishing well with Fridays being the most popular days, that is because talks/demonstrations are being done on Fridays. It is also the day most “Show and Tell” items are displayed.

The Average attendance over the two months has been: Wednesday 6
Friday 12

Some of the regular members doing projects are Les and Vic turning, Glenn toys, Eugene working on band saw boxes, or segmented boards. A lot of time is utilised by members machining wood, the most used machines being the thicknesser and the bandsaw.

Some of the “Show and Tell” subjects have been: a dovetail box by Roger Mayes, a dovetail box in progress and a completed box for drawing instruments by Roger Matthews, a technique for enhancing turned items with coloured ink by Barry. Graham showed a hexagon Moroccan side table and discussed the trials experienced during the glue up. Clive showed how he made and fitted a breadboard end to a table he is building, as well as a jig he made for holding drawers for the glue up procedure. Winston gave feedback on his visit to Torrance and Marcon in Florida, stockist of very high quality brass fittings, finishing products and a range of veneers, inlay motifs and inlay bandings.

TALKS AND DEMONSTRATIONS.

Chris showed a bar stool he made with splayed legs and a curved seat. He detailed how he made the curved seat and the difficulties in achieving the shape as well as the problems he had making the dowelled joints.

Winston showed a mitred joint with dovetail enhancement, which would be used on a box, and detailed the procedure.

PROJECT PLANK

During February the Project Plank contest was held. A plank 600mmx150mmx25mm could be used to make an entry, The members produced some innovative items within the restrictions of the material available. Eugene’s entry of a bandsawn box received the most votes.

FUTURE TALKS AND DEMONSTRATIONS (USUALLY THE 3RD FRIDAY)

Clive will talk about Shaker Boxes and demonstrate the build procedures. This will require to be spread over a few meetings as it is quite a lengthy procedure.

A talk on the use and care of cabinet scrapers is also planned.

Suggestions for topics and offers to present a talk would be welcomed.

Woodworking – why you should join the WWA

Buddy Lawson – 15 July 1993 – retyped from the original, Feb 2019

A famous saying is that “Time spent on fishing is not counted in man’s allocated span of three score years and ten.”

I have often wondered, and hope, that perhaps the same can be said for those who take their pleasure from working in wood. As a material, to those who love it, it has no equal – it is warm to touch and even the oldest wood in the world is still alive, moving with the changes in temperature or humidity, gradually collecting on its surface a patina that only time can make, and even the most skilful restorer envies what time has done.

You can practice the art of woodwork with nothing but the most simple of hand tools, as was done by our ancestors who created the furniture that we love and cherish today. Some of us try to pitch our skills against those of the masters – the names of Sheraton, Hepplewhite and the great wood carver Grinling Gibbons are household words to workers in wood.

Or you can invest in power tools, spending vast amounts of money on saw, planers, thicknessers, spindles and a variety of ingenious mechanisms that cut, drill, bend and even torture one of nature’s most wonderful renewable gifts to man, wood. Woodwork is there for you to enjoy and if you decide to choose it you will enter a new world which can satisfy the need of most people and give them a timeless interest.

A group of enthusiasts such as those who make up the Witwatersrand Woodworkers Association is well worthwhile joining. In this association, the newcomer to wood or the seasoned professional can, and do, meet, drawn from all walks of life, filling all types of vocations, and sharing one thing in common, a love and interest in woodwork.

My own position is nothing more than a dedicated amateur, schooled by an English craftsman, Mr J Hibbins when I was an inky fingered schoolboy. That man instilled into me a lifelong love of woodwork in all its forms and a very genuine desire to pass my own enthusiasm onto others. It is my privilege to be the third consecutive chairman of our organisation. The position is held for a 2-year period, and we are now 5 years old.

True, Hardware Centre is a commercial organisation, but today business and the customer are tied more tightly than ever before. Hardware Centre to many others represents a centre of excellence in all things related to wood. Witwatersrand Woodworkers Association was conceived and born through the efforts of our founding father Irwin Luke, within Hardware Centre and as the first 5 years of our life ticked past the association and Hardware Centre have become more and more interdependent.

The directors, Harold and Julian Stern, their right-hand man Kishore Vallabh - more than 20 years in the business, Derek Rowe who has spent a lifetime in the business of selling woodwork machines, are but a few of the talented and generous people known to me in Johannesburg. And there are 4 other Hardware Centres in South Africa, in Durban, Cape Town, Bloemfontein and Pretoria.

The objectives of the Witwatersrand Woodworkers Association are very simply to promote an interest in woodwork and to provide a forum where people can meet and learn. We have regular monthly meetings for the whole association, usually at Hardware Centre. There are regular demonstrations on subjects of general interest such as joint making, staining, polishing and finishing, grinding and honing, and the safe use of power tools. Then there are the smaller interest groups, members who wish to specialise in woodturning or cabinet making, etc. Some 10 or so people get together and often meet in each other’s workshops. The beginner is especially important and again is catered for in small groups by arrangement with experienced craftsmen.

Future plans are to co-operate with other woodworking groups in Pretoria and elsewhere. Is there a place for a national woodworking association? We hope to work with the Crafts Council of South Africa and perhaps arrange for demonstrations of members' work. Members may want to offer their work for sale and we are looking for outlets that vary from "flea markets" to established prestigious shops that may be interested in high-quality small numbers of goods, or even custom made articles.

An exciting future possibility is to invite overseas guests of international status, such as the well-known turner, Mr Tobias Kay, from England. His expertise could be shared with other interest groups in our country.

As woodworkers we have the skill to make such things as interesting toys and it is our pleasure to give toys to children in hospital at Christmas, especially children afflicted with cancer. At the upper end of the scale of years we have been asked to make small items such as pepper mills and coffee grinders that would be of interest to senior citizens confined to old age homes.

It's not all work and no play. Highlights of the pure fun side are family affairs. A mid-year braai is always a great success and then a Christmas party that just seems to become more and more enjoyable from year to year. Largely through the good offices of Kishore there are raffles, good food and more enough refreshment even for the thirstiest members!

We are a fairly new organisation, we are very much still learning, but in matters of wood, we have a basic professionalism. We believe that for anyone interested in any aspect of woodwork the Witwatersrand Woodworkers Association has a great deal to offer.

Buddy Lawson
Chairman
Witwatersrand Woodworkers Association
15 July 1993

Woodworking 101 – Cutting board

Trevor Pope - 27 March 2019

Intro

For the first session of WW 101, you will make a cutting board from a rough-sawn, clear pine board. The final size will be approx. 300 x 400mm. The stock is 150mm wide, so we will join two pieces together for the final width of 300mm, using a rubbed joint. You will learn how to mark and plane the rough-sawn pieces to size before gluing them together. Following this, you will plane the board to the final size and trim the edges, followed by a light sanding, so you can apply a food-safe finish.

If you have any of the tools listed below, bring them along, so we can help you set up and check them, to solve any problems you may have using them. We will have some tools for you to use, but depending on the numbers of people, you may have to share them. Tools are a personal thing. You will find that you want to set them up and use them to suit your personal preferences, so having your own is best. We will help you to set up your planes – bring your sharpening kit so you can make sure your blades are sharp.

We have plenty of clamps at the clubhouse, so if you don't have any, we will make do.

The clubhouse has 5 benches, with two vices each, so we can accommodate a maximum of 9 people, plus a spot for the instructor to demonstrate the steps.

Instructions - Make a cutting board approximately 400 x 300 x 15 from clear pine, using 150mm wide x 25mm thick stock:

Cut two pieces of 150mm wide to a length of 400mm, face one side and one edge using a hand plane (#5). Glue the two pieces together using a rub joint to make a width of 300mm approx. Plane surfaces and edges using a hand plane (#4 or #5). Use a plane to round off / chamfer the corners and edges as needed for usability and appearance. After a light sanding, finish with a food safe finish, perhaps sanding with 220 grit to remove raised grain in between coats.

Material – 800mm length of 150 x 25 clear pine; PVA (white) glue; 220 grit sand paper; food safe finish such as mineral oil, linseed oil, or walnut oil, etc. Workbench with wood vice, such as found in the WWA workshop.

Tools required - #5 hand plane, 150mm try square, 300mm or 500mm steel rule to mark off edges and check flatness, pencil, marking knife, crosscut saw, 2 x clamps with 300mm capacity

Optional tools – marking gauge to mark off thickness, #4 plane for smoothing, block plane for edges, sharpening kit for plane blades. If you don't have a #5 plane, a #6 or #7 will also do – bring what you have.

Skills acquired – marking and crosscutting to a line; hand planing an edge suitable for a rub joint; gluing up a rub joint and clamping. Once the glue is set, flattening surfaces and edges using a handplane; planing end grain edges; planing corners and chamfers; sanding and finishing.

Knowledge – principle of a rub joint, how to sharpen and set a handplane, basic finishing principles for a cutting board.

Time – depends on skill level and tools available. Probably 1 hour from setting up your plane through to glue up, but there will be plenty of time. This will be followed by another session once the glue has set – perhaps another hour for planing true, trimming, and easing the edges. Finishing with a food-safe finish will take a few days, which you can do in your own time at home.