

# Crosscut

◀ Frans Joubert explaining the finer details of pen finishing in 2019 at the Living Link meeting hall.

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**Next Turners Meeting on Monday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021** from 18h00 at **Made in Workshop** – Demonstration on turning wheels for toys by Chris van Heeswijk.

**New Year - General Meeting on Wednesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021** from 18h00 at **Made in Workshop**. – Graham Swallow will give a talk on veneers.

## News

**July 2021 meetings were cancelled due to the imposition of a Level 4 lockdown in response to the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave of Coronavirus infections in Gauteng province.**

Just in case we doubted the seriousness of the precautions we were taking; we were saddened by the news that **Frans Joubert** succumbed to a coronavirus infection he acquired in hospital while recovering from surgery. Frans led the turners' group; amongst the many contributions he has made to the club over the years. We will miss his contributions to the club, his readiness to help and his friendship. The picture shows Frans at Hobby-X 2020. Frans was one of the main organisers of the club stand at Hobby-X.

**Turners' meeting. Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021.** Demonstration by John Speedy - making a long, thin-stemmed goblet. John made the cup first, followed by the stem in sections. The workpiece is held in a chuck, and after the cup was complete, the tailstock was brought up to support the cup while the very thin stem was turned in sections. Before parting off the base, John added a small captive ring as well.



**Wood of the month – SA Pine** – Chris van Heeswijk explained which pine species are grown in South Africa to be sold as SA Pine. There are four original species:

Pinus elliotii – Slash pine - hardest  
Pinus patula – Patula pine  
Pinus taeda – Loblolly pine  
Pinus pinaster – Cluster pine - softest

These originated in the south-eastern US, where the climate is warmer, matching the SA climate. Pine species hybridise readily and have been intensively bred for locally SA conditions. Other species that are known as pines such as Oregon pine which is *Pseudotsuga Menziesii*, Norfolk Island pine and the various cedars are often identified as pines, although being technically different species.

### Main Club meeting, Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

Furniture restoration by Michael Minassian. Michael enjoys bringing older furniture back to original condition by fixing broken parts, colour matching and finishing. He tries to keep the original finishes, and the patina of the piece. He explained some of the techniques he uses to repair and replace parts and to blend in the repairs to the original.

The list of books in the WWA library compiled by Ray Deftereos can be found here:  
<https://handtoolbookrev.libib.com/i/wwa-library>

**Hobby-X 2021** has been postponed from April to November. It will take place at the Kyalami Convention Centre from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021. WWA will have a stand as before. The annual toys-for-charity braai is shortly afterwards, so this is an opportunity to showcase the toys we make. If you want to show off some of your toys, please bring your toy making schedule forwards a few weeks!



### Schedule for Regular Events at **Made in Workshop**

**Meetings – regular meetings in addition to those given above**

1. First Saturday of the month – Bobby Bezuidenhout – Woodwork 101 for beginners. Contact Bobby on 083 873 3872 or [bobbyme1109@gmail.com](mailto:bobbyme1109@gmail.com)
2. Second Saturday of month - Herman – all things turning related – 083 631 0501 [hermanpotgietersq AT gmail.com](mailto:hermanpotgietersq AT gmail.com)

This list is subject to change, so please consult your Crosscut each month.

**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.

## Fechner Colour Effect

Trevor Pope

You may have seen John Speedy's demonstration of a spinning top with a decoration made of black and white segments that appears to show tinges of colour when spun fast. I didn't see the colours very clearly, but the effect was definitely apparent.

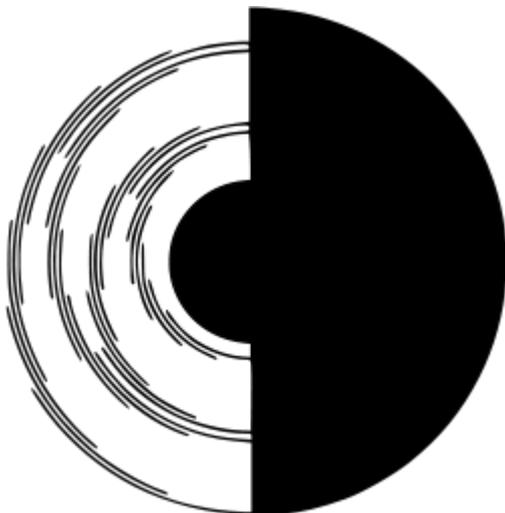
This effect has been documented and given a name or two. I stumbled across a Wikipedia article documenting the effect that I thought would be worth sharing. The original Wikipedia article can be found here: [www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fechner\\_color](http://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fechner_color)

### *Fechner colour*

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**The Fechner colour effect** is an [illusion](#) of [colour](#) seen when looking at certain rapidly changing or moving black-and-white patterns. They are also called **pattern induced flicker colors (PIFCs)**.

The effect is most commonly demonstrated with a device known as **Benham's top** (also called **Benham's disk**). When the top is spun, arcs of pale color are visible at different places on the disk that forms its upper surface. The effect can also be seen in [stroboscopic lights](#) when flashes are set at certain critical speeds. Rotating fan blades, particularly aluminum ones, can also demonstrate the effect; as the fan accelerates or decelerates, the colors appear, drift, change and disappear. The stable running speed of the fan does not (normally) produce colors, suggesting that it is not an interference effect with the frequency of the illumination flicker. This is a sample of Benham's top.



The effect was noted by [Gustav Fechner](#) and [Hermann von Helmholtz](#) and propagated to English-speakers through [Charles Benham](#)'s invention of his top. [Florence Winger Bagley](#) was one of the early investigators of this phenomenon.

The [perceptual](#) mechanism of Fechner colour is not entirely understood. One possible reason people see colours may be that the [colour receptors](#) in the human eye respond at different rates to red, green, and blue. Or, more specifically, that the latencies of the centre and the surrounding mechanisms differ for the different types of colour-specific ganglion cells.

The phenomenon originates from neural activity in the [retina](#) and spatial interactions in the [primary visual cortex](#), which plays a role in encoding low-level image features, such as edges and spatiotemporal frequency components. Research indicates that the blue-yellow [opponent process](#) accounts for all the different PIFCs.

Benham's top and other PIFCs are being researched for use as a diagnostic tool for diseases of the eye and the visual track. It has shown particular promise in detecting [optic neuritis](#).

### **Benham's top**

**Benham's top** is named after the English newspaper-man, amateur scientist, and toymaker [Charles Benham](#), who in 1895 sold a [top](#) painted with the pattern shown. Benham was inspired to propagate the Fechner colour effect through his top after his correspondence with [Gustav Theodor Fechner](#), who had observed and demonstrated the said effect. Benham's top made it possible for speakers of the English language to learn of the Fechner colour effect, about which Fechner's original reports were written in German.

## Woodturning practical tests

From an article in Woodturning magazine and originally from a 1908 text book on Woodturning.

John Speedy is intrigued by an article in the latest copy of Woodturning magazine that he has received on some practise tests for woodturning taught at school. This is based on the book Problems in Wood-turning written by Fred Crankshaw and published in 1908. The picture below shows three test examples made by the author. The drawings are shown in more detail below. The dimensions are inches and fractions.

