



◀ Close-up of ball in progress during Chris' demo.

Crosscut

Newsletter of the Witwatersrand Woodworkers' Association
PO Box 411346, Craighall, 2024, South Africa

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Next General Club Meeting on Wednesday, the 12th June 2013 from 18h00 at WWA clubhouse at the Living Link Hall. Properties of wood – Martin Rosengarten.

Next Turner's monthly meeting is on Monday, the 3rd June 2013 at 18h00 at the WWA clubhouse at the Living Link Hall. Turning a small box (Part 1) - Rick Florence.

News

May Turner's Meeting – Chris van Heeswijk demonstrated how to turn a ball using the method of dividing into sections, following the theory explained in last month's meeting.

Wood of the month – Geyvillea Robusta – Silky Oak. Originally from Eastern Australia, and widely established in South Africa, it is an attractive timber for cabinet making and turning. It can be trigger contact dermatitis in some people, so precautions should be taken when working with it. Use a dust mask to avoid breathing in the dust.

May Meeting – AGM and New Committee. A successful AGM saw the election of a new committee, with some old faces and some new blood as well. Chairman Alistair Brande thanked the committee for their contributions in the past year and welcomed the new members to the committee. Steven Barrett will take over as Turners Chairman and Vice Chair. Graham Rudings has accepted the position as Treasurer in Steven's place. Ken Mutch will continue as Secretary. Ordinary committee members are Grant Mackay, Wally Pretorius, Bennie Penn and Rose Spurr. A number of members assist in various capacities – Costa, Rick, Eddie, Chris, Barries, Greg, Frans, Peter Middleton and Clive Stacey.

If you have anything to discuss, suggestions or concerns, please feel free to approach any of the committee members.

Club Notices:

Ivor Appleton. It is with great regret that we record that our long-time member and friend, Ivor Appleton, passed away on Wednesday morning, 29th May 2013.

Spring Challenge with a Braai. The theme is "A Toy for Westview Clinic"

Barries to do the judging and we could also possibly invite Daphne to be another judge. There will also be a "Table Lamp Challenge" with both turned and non-turned entries welcome.

There will also be a Turners Challenge for you to demonstrate your skills on the day making a sphere for advanced turners or a mushroom for beginners – prizes for the best on the day.



WWA Open Day – provisional date - 9 November at the Parkhurst Recreation hall. We will look at including other societies & member sales.

Pretoria Woodwork Exhibition / Houtwerk Uitstalling. The Woodworking Association of Pretoria will be again holding their annual exhibition at the New Hope School on the **05th Oct 2013** from 08h00 to 14h00. (The New Hope School is a specialist school for children with various disabilities.) The school is in Cecilia, just West of the N1, close to the Atterbury Off-ramp. GPS co-ords S 25° 46' 43.70", E 28° 16' 02.21". See www.ptawoodworkers.com or contact 084 515 2773 for more information.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS: 2013 / 2014 year

Membership subscriptions for 2013 / 2014 are due as of the 1 May 2013. The amount agreed at the AGM for the forthcoming year is R350-. Delivery of Crosscut by email is included, postal delivery of Crosscut is R80- extra per year.

Please pay the Treasurer before the end of June 2013 to maintain continuity of your membership. Post cheques to the address in the masthead of this newsletter. Details for direct deposits are on your *personal* invoice below. Thank you.

Ken Mutch Secretary

INVOICE		01 June 2013
DUE DATE		AMOUNT
01 May 2013	SUBSCRIPTION for the Witwatersrand Woodworkers Association - 2013/2014 year	R350-00
	Direct deposits to: Witwatersrand Woodworkers Association. Nedbank Main St. branch - Code: 198765. Account No: 1979321833 – Put your name in the comment line, so that the treasurer Graham can identify the source of the payment.	

For sale:

Thicknesser/Jointer/Morticer – VEBA, 310x1400mm table, 3 HP

Radial Arm Saw – Dewalt 2 ¼ HP

Spindle Moulder – Kity, with sliding mitre table, 20 and 30mm bores

Dust extractor – 2 ports

Solid cast iron tables, steel construction, locking beds, jigs cutters, spare blades and tutorial matter included.

R33,500- the lot. Contact Oliver on 082-408-2485

Wanted: Small wood lathe – Jet JML-1014 or similar. Contact Paul Moldovanos on 084 472 7430 or paul.moldovanos AT gmail.com



Saturday Workshop. Ken Bullivant previously held the Saturday workshop at the clubhouse, but when we moved from Helpmekaar, he decided to move it to his house in Boksburg. Currently 5 of our members attend these meetings and more are welcome. 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. Contact Ken on 082 809 0020 if you wish to take part.

Please Note:

Toymakers. The toymakers meet on the first and third Mondays of every month, at 09h00 till 12h00 at the new clubhouse. Contact Eddie Marchio on 011-678-8062 or [rm22 AT mweb.co.za](mailto:rm22@mweb.co.za) for more information.



Wednesday Workshop. The Wednesday evening workshops are on the first and third Wednesdays of every month at the new clubhouse, from 18h00 till 20h00. Contact Grant Mackay on 082-391-9769 or [mackay.grant AT gmail.com](mailto:mackay.grant@gmail.com) or gmackay AT worldonline.co.za for more information.

TOYS

By Eddie Marchio – as seen at the year-end braai ►

Definition: Thing to play with,
Thing meant rather for amusement than for serious use,
Educational value

Brief History (Hampshire Museum)

Greek and Roman children played with balls, clay rattles, clay dolls, hand carts, hobby horses, hoops, spinning tops.

Between Dark ages and the Middle Ages when children were old enough to play, they also learnt to work and use weapons and tools. They would play outdoor games using knucklebones, barrel hoops. Some would have handmade wooden toys such as tops, hobby horses and puppets.

Attitudes have changed. The 18th century saw mass produced toys which were cheaper to make and buy. Wealthy parents would buy instructional toys such as dissected map puzzles, books, board games and pictorial alphabet cards.

In the 19th century the main retailers of technical toys were opticians who sold steam engines, magic lanterns, building blocks and optical toys such as kaleidoscopes.

In Britain, Hornby produced clockwork and electric trains, and Meccano.

In the 20th century cinema, T.V. and the computer have had a major influence on retail toys.

Toys are the figment of the imagination and are a creation or recreation of the world around us. Take a block of wood. You can draw the outline of a bus, truck, or kombi. You can also shape it into whatever like an animal, a racing car etc.

Besides its functionality a toy is a lot more. It is a shape or a variety of shapes such as wheel/ circle, cot---square/rectangle, or negative space.

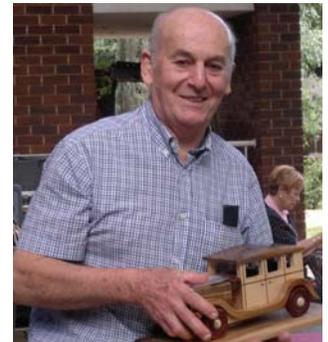
Colour is an attraction. A toy also has a tactile impression---smooth, rough, corner round etc.

As toy-makers we generate ideas reminiscent of our childhood experiences or what we mimic of the world around us. Otherwise we look for books to stimulate our enthusiasm to make a specific toy. Check the internet or the club's library.

You can make an elaborate and intricate toy (heirloom) or a plain simple toy.

The degree of your involvement will depend on your knowledge of the potential end user. (Such as a grandson.)

Irrespective, the toy should be sturdy and strong to survive rough treatment or temper tantrums. Bear in mind safety aspects such as spikes or sharp corners. The toys we donate are intended for children ranging from toddlers to 10 year olds.



What does one make?

Whatever finish you use, should not be toxic e.g. lead paint. If you are uncertain speak to the manufacturer. Common finishes are acrylic paints, food colouring, Woodoc 10, etc. Sizes and measurements are not critical. Adapt your plans relative to your timber, especially if using off cuts.

Play toys - for boys :- motorcars, trucks/lorries, trailers, tow trucks, tractors, busses, aeroplanes, trains, fire engines, wheel barrows, push carts

For girls:- doll cots, stoves, cupboard (kitchen / dolls clothes.) Prams, push carts, doll houses.

Educational toys challenge children to develop skills as well as solving problems. As the name implies they need not be as robust as play toys but be able to survive high usage. Also have consideration for disabled persons. On flat or plain surfaces put a knob or small spigot, or holes.

Some ideas:

- 1) Board with different shapes(square, triangle, circle, rectangle) This could be a single or multiple board— use different colours.
- 2) Stacking toys:- Doughnut rings or squares (large to small, different colours) or Round rods(dowel or broom stick) cut to different lengths, ascending order, and each row painted a different colour.
- 3) Shapes for counting; circle with one hole; rectangle with two holes; triangle with three holes; square with four holes, etc., all painted in different colours.
- 4) Black boards. Either framed or plain or double sided on a stand.
- 5) Pull along toys... animal shapes, vehicles etc.
- 6) Picture puzzles.
 - Body puzzle
 - Face puzzles (facial expressions, emotion, smiling, anger, sorrow.)
 - Fruit shapes
 - Different shapes with matching colour
 - Roadway—different pictures, people crossing street, bus, car.



- Relationship pictures— petrol pump/ car; mattress/ bed; tap/ hose.
- Baking/ kitchen utensils.
- Matching pictures; use African /rainbow nation themes.

Whatever you make should be with pleasure, for that is what the recipient will feel.

(Most of the above photographs are of toys made by members for the year end braai.)

