



Crosscut

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

◀ Joinery in treated SA Pine, ready for assembly

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Next General Club Meeting on Wednesday, the 12th March 2014 from 18h00 at WWA clubhouse at the Living Link Hall. Grinding wheels by Steve from LTA Abrasives

Next Turner's monthly meeting is on Monday, the 3rd March 2014 at 18h00 at the WWA clubhouse at the Living Link Hall. Turning decoration by Dries Blignaut. Wood of the month: Panga Panga

News

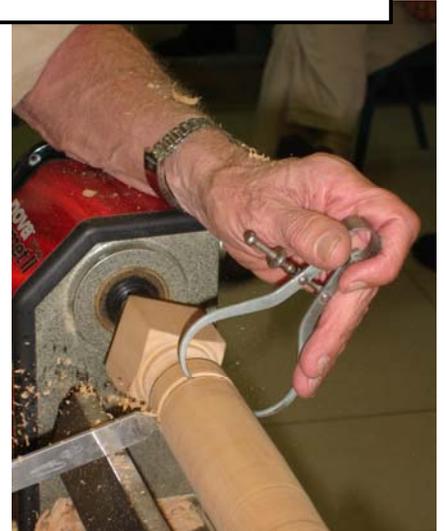
February 2014 Turner's Meeting – John Speedy showed how to copy a turning without using a copy lathe. Using a combination of marking techniques, John showed where accuracy is important and where the eye can't tell small differences. He made a copy of a leg that was indistinguishable from the original when the two are not close together.

Wood of the Month: Japanese Pagoda (Saphora japonica) which is similar to Black locust (Robinia pseudoacacia) – which can be found outside the meeting hall. Chris illustrated the similarities and differences between the two. Despite the name, this tree comes from China.

John using callipers to size a step cut. ▶

Which one is the original? (Hint – there are a couple of pencil marks on

the copy.) ▶



◀ Peter Middleton discussing the projects from last month - wooden mallets or meat tenderisers.

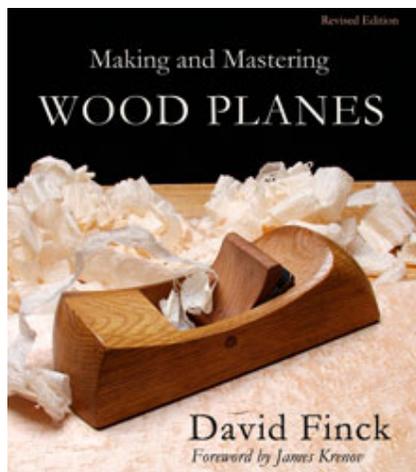
Hobby-X 2014 at the Dome,

Randburg. This will take place from the 6th to 9th March. The WWA will be taking part together with the Pretoria club. Two Nova lathes and a Jet Mini will be in use. The demonstration and stand attendance schedule has been sent to all the volunteers. An additional spot for router

demo's is still available – contact Alistair if you would like demo the use of the router or something similar.



February 2014 Meeting – A talk on wooden planes by Paul Roberts from the Pretoria woodworking club. Paul showed some examples of wooden planes that he made and explained how they are made. He explained the importance of accuracy in cutting out the bed for the blade in relation to the sole. The planes he made are based on the style popularised by James Krenov. Detailed instructions can be found in a book by David Fincke who was a student of Krenov. (See www.davidfinck.com for more info on the book. The blades he uses are now made by Ron Hock (See www.hocktools.com).



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](http://gmackay.worldonline.co.za) for more information.

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.

Compost heap Screen

Trevor Pope

Wooden structures intended to survive more than a few years outdoors require some thought. Repeated exposure to moisture followed by drying out makes most wood, vulnerable to fungal attack. So, if possible, use treated timber or weather resistant wood such as Teak. CCA or Creosote treatment will inhibit fungal attack. Creosoted timber has the added benefit of resisting weathering, whereas CCA treated wood does weather, and so must be finished with an outdoor rated finish. However, since the design I had in mind required some joinery, and Creosote impregnated timber is unpleasant to work with, CCA treated SABS grade S5 pine was used. S5 is a structural grading and does provide some level of quality assurance.

A compost heap is a hostile environment, as it is infested with fungi and bacteria all going about their business of breaking down the vegetable matter. To keep them active, the moisture content has to be kept up making a harsh environment.

Completed, ready for varnishing. This is the back that will face onto the fence▶



A disadvantage of CCA treated wood, is that it is often delivered with a high moisture content from the treatment process, and as the wood dries, it can warp. CCA treated wood offcuts should be treated as toxic waste – they shouldn't be burned or put onto the compost heap.

In the interests of longevity, I used joinery that will shed water. Although I glued the joints, I also pinned them with dowels to cater for the eventual failure of the glue. I used white PVA glue – epoxy glue would have been better, albeit much more expensive.

Joinery cut –
ready to
assemble ►



For the top rail, I joined the posts to the rail, using blind mortises in the underside of the rail and tenons cut on the top of the posts. The posts were joined to the lower rail using a bridle joint. The upper surfaces of both rails were chamfered, so as to shed water. The cladding was housed into a slot on the underside to the top rail for mechanical support. The length of cladding used made it quite flexible, so housing one side in the groove provided support.



The groove was cut using a Stanley plow plane #??? With a 10mm cutter. There was no power for a router where the screen was assembled, so the groove was cut in-situ, by hand.

The joinery was marked out using a marking gauge and cut by hand using a tenon saw. The mortises were cut by hand using a firmer mortise chisel.

Then the frame was glued up and adjusted for square by measuring the diagonals. The joints were pinned using 10mm dowels, glued in place. (see picture)

One of the challenges in working with wood at this scale, is that the wood is never completely straight. CCA treated timber in particular is inclined to warp. By carefully selecting pieces and orientating them according to how they are warped, the best can be made of what is available, and flaws may not even be visible to the unschooled eye. When squaring up frames, a large rafter square may mislead you, because the members may all be slightly bent. Each joint could be locally square but the whole frame could be crooked. Provided the sides are correctly dimensioned, you can measure the diagonals to square up the frame.

The siding I used has a machined overlap, so the sides locate against each other, to provide some support. I used the straightest pieces to start at the top where they would be most visible and ended up with worst at the bottom. With some judicious clamping, all the pieces fitted together to make a neat siding. The ends of the siding were screwed to the posts using copper-coated decking screws intended for outdoor use.

Glued up, checking for square ▶



◀ Two coats of Dulux Timba-preservative with a mahogany stain were used to protect the wood against weathering.

Attaching cladding – one drill for drilling, the other for screwing in the copper-coated decking screws, that will hopefully not rust. ▶



◀ Not all the pieces were as straight as I would have liked. I saved the worst for last, but with some careful clamping, they were made to fit.