

# Crosscut

◀ Hedgehogs from 2019 – maker unknown.

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**Next Turners Meeting on Monday, the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021** from 18h00 at **Made in Workshop**  
– Toys to make on the lathe – Herman will co-ordinate. Please bring any examples you have made.

**Wood of the Month - Gaboon Ebony**

**General Meeting on Wednesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021** from 18h00 at **Made in Workshop**. – Michael Minassian will talk on new techniques he developed to repair antiques.  
Also: Staked stools – What joinery is used to attach the legs to the seat – Trevor Pope

**December meeting** – There will be one meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> December that will combine the two meetings into one. There will be a bring-and-braai, tools for sale and swap, and a quiz.

## News

**Turners' meeting. Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021.** John Speedy explained the general principles for sharpening turning tools such as angles and the use of jigs. John explained how to use the O'Donnell sharpening jig and how to set the angles. The O'Donnell jig is no longer made. However, you may remember a presentation John gave on how to make a similar one, and the article he wrote for the May 2021 *Crosscut* that gives detailed construction drawings. John explained how to achieve the recommended angles for the common turning tools in use and the use of the Tormek jig for fingernail profile gouges. He also gave some recommendations on sharpening



wheels to use on your grinder for sharpening turning tools. The table, from *Woodturning* magazine number 352, gives the sharpening angles for a variety of turning tool tips.

### Woodturning tool sharpening angles

Tool	Generally recommended	My preference
	Angles	Angles
Bedan	15-30	
Bowl gouge	40-65	40 and 60
Carbide scraper	*	*
Deep hollowing tool	70-80	70
Detail gouge	40	40
Negative rake scraper	25 top/40 bottom	25 top/40 bottom
Parting tool	50	50
Scraper	70-80	75
Negative rake scraper	25 top/40 bottom	25 top/40 bottom
Parting tool	50	50
Scraper	70-80	
Skew chisel	70 skew/bevel**	70 skew/bevel**
Spindle gouge	25-40	40
Spindle roughing gouge	40-45	45
Thin parting tool	45	45

**Wood of the Month – Cedars**, in particular *Cedrus libani*, known since ancient times as the Cedar of Lebanon. Chris explained that there are four true

cedars – Lebanese cedars, Atlas cedars (*C. atlantica* – see picture on right, from Wikipedia), that originate in the Atlas mountains of North Africa, the Himalayan cedar (*C. deodara*) and the Cypress cedar (*C. brevifolia*). When identifying the tree, the needles arranged in a spiral are diagnostic. Chris says that the wood looks like pine, but smells more like a cedar. It is durable and prized for a number of uses such as moth repellents. The Clanwilliam cedar that is native to the Cedarberg in the Western Cape (*Widdringtonia* sp.) is not a true cedar although the wood shares the same characteristics.



**Main Club meeting, Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021.** Roger Mayes talked about his approach to marquetry and inlays for decorating small boxes. Roger outlined several approaches to decorating small boxes with veneers and then explained in detail the window method that he prefers. He showed how he cuts out the shapes; fits them together and then glues them onto the box which is the substrate. The ground or substrates that Roger uses can be solid wood, MDF or plywood, depending on the project in hand. In the picture, Roger is showing an example of a pattern that runs over the front edge of a box. Roger uses a simple set of tools, as shown in the box below, for creating his pictures. Roger can be contacted on 082-229-1031 for more information.



**Toys for Charity Annual braai on Saturday, the 13<sup>th</sup> November** at the Gereformeerde Kerk - 41 Third Road (41 Derdeweg), Northwold, Randburg. Coordinates S26°04'20" E27°57'30.1" Starting 10h30 for 11h00; the raffle starts at 12h00, lunch at 13h00. See Alistair's emails for more info.

### 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 [bobbymel109@gmail.com](mailto:bobbymel109@gmail.com)
2. Second Saturday of month - Herman – all things turning related – 083 631 0501 [hermanpotgietersq AT gmail.com](mailto:hermanpotgietersq@ATgmail.com)

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

**Show & Tell** meetings are held at Hardware Centre every Friday Morning at 09:30. All members welcome. Contact Eugene on 0824953394 or [eugene@antlerfin.co.za](mailto:eugene@antlerfin.co.za)

**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.

## Sharpening woodturning gouges – notes from article in WT352 – Woodturning magazine

In John's talk, he explained how to grind a swept back profile on a deep-fluted or bowl gouge. Here is an excerpt from the magazine article that details the process.

The principle involves grinding a flat surface on the top of the gouge and using this surface to define the area to be ground away to make a swept-back grind (also known as the Ellsworth grind or Irish grind). This grind is intended for more experienced turners. Beginning turners may need some help with using a gouge with this grind for the first time.

The Vari-grind jig referred to is the same type of jig as the one showed by John in his talk, basically the same as the Tormek jig.

### Sharpening a brand new (or poorly shaped) gouge

As I said earlier, new tools are seldom provided properly shaped and sharpened by the manufacturer. Here's a procedure for preparing a new or damaged tool. I'm showing the process on a bowl gouge, but the method is the same on a detail or spindle gouge. Unlike most sharpening that you'll do, sharpening an incorrectly shaped tool is one of the few times that you'll remove a relatively large amount of metal.

**1** Starting on your coarse wheel, set your platform at the desired nose angle for the gouge you are reshaping. Grind just the tool's nose at that angle.

**2** With the flute facing the coarse wheel grind the corners off to get the proper shape on the tool. Use the platform to provide support as you grind off the corners.



Grinding the corners off; flute facing the wheel

**3** Put the gouge in the Vari-Grind jig set at the proper protrusion distance, 1/8 in. Set the angle arm a little forward or a bit back of centre depending on whether you want wings or a fingernail profile.

**4** Remove the platform from the coarse wheel and install the vee-pocket.

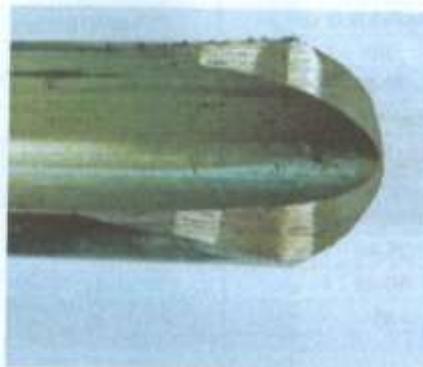
**5** Paint the nose of the tool black with your marker.

**6** Put the angle arm in the vee-pocket and adjust the vee-pocket distance such that when the grinding wheel is turned by hand you get a top to bottom scratch on the tool's nose.

**7** Begin grinding to gradually reduce the flats you created in step 2 to a properly shaped edge. Inspect the tool frequently as you progress to see if the side grind is what you want. If needed, adjust the side grind by moving the angle arm forward to increase the length or back to



Grinding the nose angle



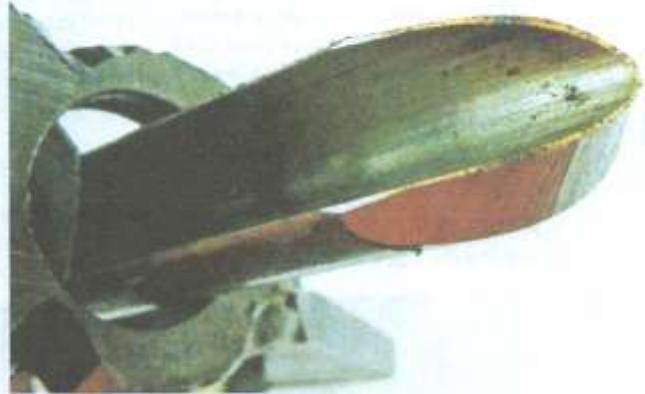
Corners ground off

reduce the side grind. The photo at the top left of the opposite shows one side of the gouge properly shaped, while the opposite side still has a flat. The photo next to it shows a proper shape around and, although there are still so small flat areas, they will be taken care in the next step.

SHARPENING WOODTURNING TOOLS

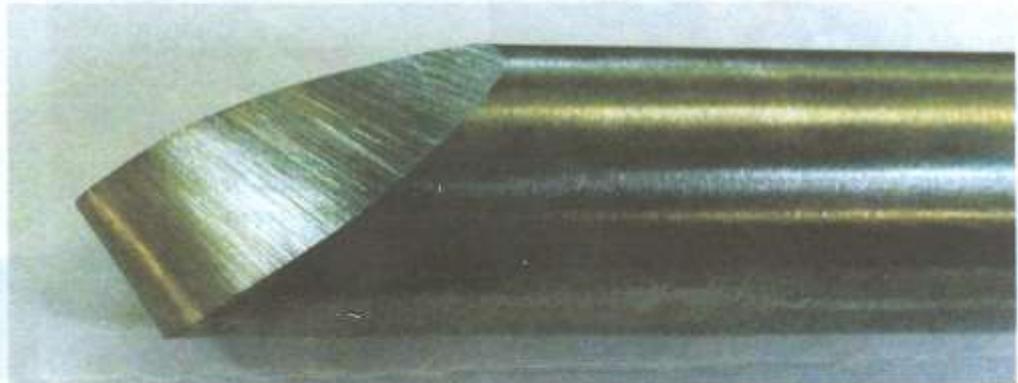


One side ground to proper shape; one to go



Both sides ground to proper shape but still a bit of flat on the edge

**8** Move the vee-pocket to the fine grit wheel, taking care to put it at the same distance from the wheel as it was at the coarse grit wheel. Take the tool still in the Vari-Grind to the fine wheel and grind a pass or two on the bevel to bring the tool to final sharpness.



Finished gouge after final grinding on a fine wheel