

# Crosscut



◀ Bobby showing how he put together his umbrella stand

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**Next Turners Meeting on Monday, the 7<sup>th</sup> August 2017** from 18h00 at the Living Link Hall –

Inside-out turning with paper glue joints – demo by John Speedy

Wood of the Month - TBA

**Next General Meeting on Thursday, the 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017** from 18h00 at the Living Link Hall

– (Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> August is a public holiday.) Cabinet making jigs – please bring any you have made to show and tell.

## News

### 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017- Turner's meeting. Discussion on Jigs and

**fixtures.** Various people showed examples of jigs that they have made for use on the lathe. Alistair showed a story stick for repeat spindle turnings. Chris showed a jig for reversing deep hollowed vessels in ► order to finish the bases of the vessels. Herman showed a depth gauge; collets for use in chuck to hold undersize spigots; and some jam chucks. John Speedy showed a three-wheel spindle steady based on a design used by Jean-Pierre Escoulen (as seen in his demonstration on making a Trembleur). John is offering them for sale, if you are interested. Trevor showed a simple self-adjusting steady as per Frank Paine's book. This was documented in a recent issue of Crosscut – reproduced below for

those that missed it. The section of the book is reproduced below. The article appeared in the May and June 2016 Crosscuts.

Steven showed off a tool rack that can hold a variety of tools, keeping them ready to hand. The picture ► shows his tool rack on the wall in his workshop showing all the different tools it can hold. Each tool is held in place by a roller captured in a slot, pulled down by the weight of the tool. Lifting the tool releases the roller, allowing the tool to be removed.

**Wood of the Month – Walnut.** Chris van Heeswijk presented American Walnut – *Juglans nigra*, also called Black Walnut. Indigenous to the Eastern USA, it has been a popular wood for cabinet making. In particular due to its stability once dry, it is a favourite for making gunstocks. Other uses include tannin extracted from the bark, edible nuts and edible oil that dries. The shells are used for bead blasting.

**14<sup>th</sup> June 2017- General Club meeting.** Martin and Charl from Vermont Sales demonstrated new products from Festool. Martin showed a Festool Mobile Edgebander 60 which is a portable machine for gluing on



edging up to 2mm thick. The edges can be straight or curved – inside or outside, down to a radius of 50mm. The unit is fully automatic, self-feeding with a short warm-up time. You will need to budget R56k for a unit that includes accessories in a Systainer, so only larger shops will be able to justify it. The top picture shows the size of the unit. The lower picture shows Martin attaching a 2mm edging to a curved chipboard edge.



Charl showed the new Festool Kapex KS-60 sliding compound mitre saw which has a 210mm blade. Budget about R15k for this unit.



## Club Notices

**Toy making** – please don't forget our social responsibility project for the end of the year. If you need ideas, spend some time Googling wooden toys for ideas. You should be able to find some designs that you will enjoy making – some skill building, combined with efficient batch production techniques! The toymakers' fundraising braai has been booked for Saturday, the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017, at the Gereformeerde Kerk, Randburg.

**Spring Challenge** – This will take place on 02<sup>nd</sup> September 2017 at the Albertskroon clubhouse. There will be two competitions. One is a homework task to make a kitchen gadget out of wood. The turning challenge on the day will be a **Ring Stand** – to hold small jewellery such as rings. Prizes for the best items will be judged by the attending members. This will be followed by a bring-and-braai.

### Possible future visits and courses being considered by the committee:

- Door Making – factory visit and demonstration at Greg Hirschon's factory in Robertville – near Austro. Greg will demonstrate how they make a door – Saturday Morning.
- Powertool demo at Bosch – week day.
- Airbrushing course at Vermont, Olifantsfontein – week day.
- French polishing course – by Toolcraft (from Cape Town) at the Albertskroon clubhouse.

Details will be advised when available.

### **IMPORTANT DATE CHANGES**

Due to the public holiday on Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> August, the Cabinetmakers' meeting in August will take place on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017.**

### **Regular Events:**

**Toymakers.** The toymakers meet on 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. Winston will open up the workshop – see Winston's contact details below.

**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.

**Friday Morning workshop** - Winston Klein will be convening a workshop at the Albertskroon work shop on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays monthly from 09:00 to 12:00. Contact Winston at 072 553 5045 or [kleins AT iburst.co.za](mailto:kleins@iburst.co.za)

**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](mailto:Johankramer300@gmail.com)

**Saturday meetings**

1. Second Saturday of month - Herman will open the workshop – all things turning related – 083-631-0501 [hermanpotgieteresq AT gmail.com](mailto:hermanpotgieteresq@gmail.com)
2. Third Saturday of month – Clive will open the workshop – 083 407 8008 [stacey AT netactive.co.za](mailto:stacey@netactive.co.za) Clive will also open the workshop during the week “BY ARRANGEMENT”
3. Fourth Saturday of month – Graham will open the workshop – 082 900 0242 [grahamcr AT mweb.co.za](mailto:grahamcr@mweb.co.za)  
“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?

Excerpt, repeated from last year, for those that missed it:

**From “The Practical Wood Turner” by Frank Pain,**

First published by Evans Brothers (the publishers of The Woodworker) in 1957. (Page 69 - )

“**Steady.** But let us now study the steady which was wanted chiefly for back legs and armchair legs. One is shown in Fig. 5 and is in the High Wycombe museum. These steadies were very crudely made. Wood-turners are notoriously bad at making things. In fact, if no wood-turning was needed, they would have to go plank-stacking in the timber yard. A few lathe manufacturers do make steadies, and although they are ideal for metal, they are of little use for wood. A steady for metal has to retain the work solidly against the thrust of the tool, and metal does not bend one way more than the other as wood does. I’ve yet to see metal burn as wood can.

So for wood we require a gentle thrust to counteract its tendency to bend more easily one way than the other (this is often the start of chatter in wood turning). We want a simple means of relieving this thrust when the wood starts burning; and it must have enough clearance so that a square can revolve before the wood is turned round. It must not be fussy as to size, for when we reduce the wood opposite the steady, it must adjust itself. Then, as only a few jobs require a steady, it must be easily removed from the lathe. The wood-turner needing a steady would ask the timber-yard foreman for a chunk of throw-out wood. This he would ponder over, and at a suitable moment ask the band sawyer to saw out something as in Fig. 6. There always seemed to be a box of old bolts, and one was fitted at (A) and another (probably ½ in.) with a wing nut at (B). A chairmaker was enlisted to screw a block of wood on the back, and it was tried several times in the lathe to see whether the wood could still revolve with it in place, and whether it would come out with the rest still in. The slip with a notch in it was pivoted at (B), and the width of wedge tried by experiment.

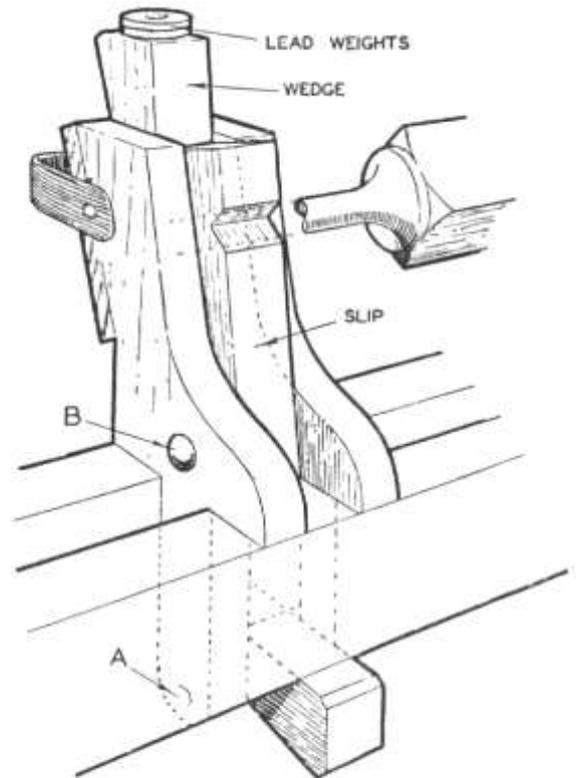


FIG. 6. SIMPLE YET EFFECTIVE STEADY FOR WOOD. The great advantage of this is that it maintains a constant light pressure. At the same time it is positive in that it resists thrust. Furthermore it automatically takes up to the reduced size of the wood when the latter is turned right opposite it.

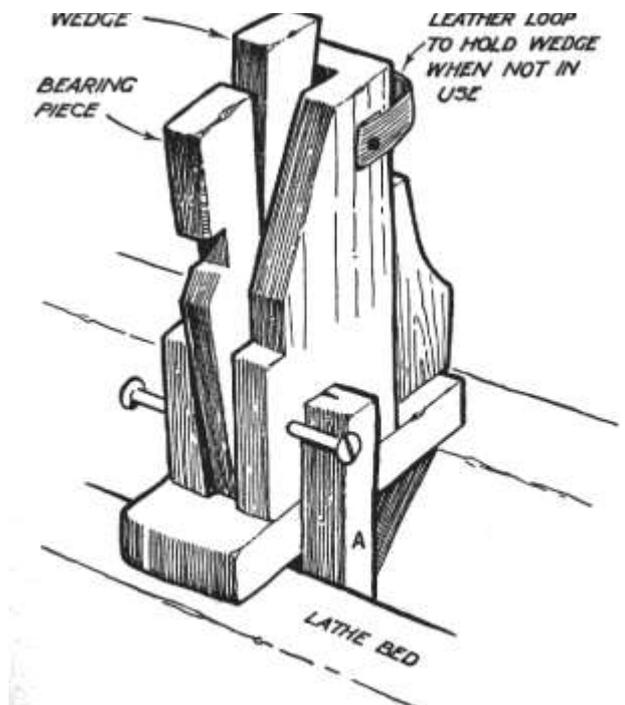


FIG. 5. BACK STEADY USED ON AN OLD LATHE. This apparently crude device is most effective in use. It is sketched from an old lathe in the Museum at High Wycombe, Bucks.

In the end, with the co-operation of the whole factory except the polishing shop, the job was done, a fine museum piece of work, which gladdened the heart, for it worked (that was the only reason it was made). It would help us if manufacturers would give us a start and provide the main part to fit on to the lathe bed, which is invariably round, and less handy than the two oblong sections of wood to fit in to.

**“Why the steady works.** Let us see why it is so good. Fig. 6 shows a wedge against the underside of the lathe bed, pressing against the bolt, so forming a simple way of holding the steady firmly, yet easily removed by a biff. The wedge can be easily removed, and is to hand at the back of the steady when needed. The wood slip fits the work, and needs no special fitting. Its crudeness in no way hinders its use. If the wood becomes hot, a rub with some candle-grease will cure it. Should the work require more thrust, it can be given by nailing lead onto the wedge; or a rubber band can be passed over the top of the wedge and down beneath.

One man I know has a screw which grips the wedge. He pushes the wedge down and tightens the screw which holds it there. A wing nut exerts enough pressure to prevent the slip from rising or falling, but allows it to swivel by action of the wedge. Some use a wood screw, but the principle is all you need worry about. If you draw a square at centre height at your lathe bed, you can work one out for your lathe. The wedge can be quite wide, as when it is withdrawn the slip goes further back out of the way. If you wish to do long stuff it is an ideal steady, and well worth making.

**“Alternative steady.** If your lathe has twin beds you can make a simpler one which helps to steady the work, but is not as good. Still it has its uses as it can be quickly slipped into the bed where it is needed. Fig. 7 shows its principle. Part (A) slides down and so forces the slip against the work, but it does not prevent the work from moving up and down. Perhaps you want a simpler steady. Well a wedge inserted between the rest and work helps to do some jobs, but it burns easily as it has only a line contact.

**“Preliminary rounding.** These steadies must have the work round, and back legs can be tiresome to turn round. You lightly put your hand around the revolving back leg, and, with a  $\frac{3}{8}$  in gouge, turn the part where the steady is to come. For an extremely difficult job you rasp it round first. The hand is around the work, not so much as a steady, but to catch the job if it flies out. Remember that we are thinking of long, springy items or they would not require a steady. If you find that it wears though to the bone, or if you can smell burning pork, try another way. Still, to put your hand around the work is helpful and safe.

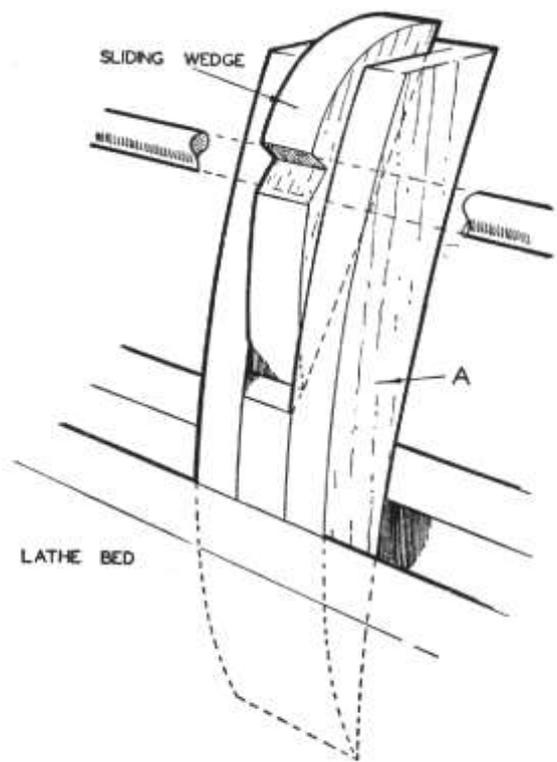


FIG. 7. SIMPLE ALTERNATIVE STEADY. Although not so effective as the steady in Fig. 6, this has its uses for some jobs.

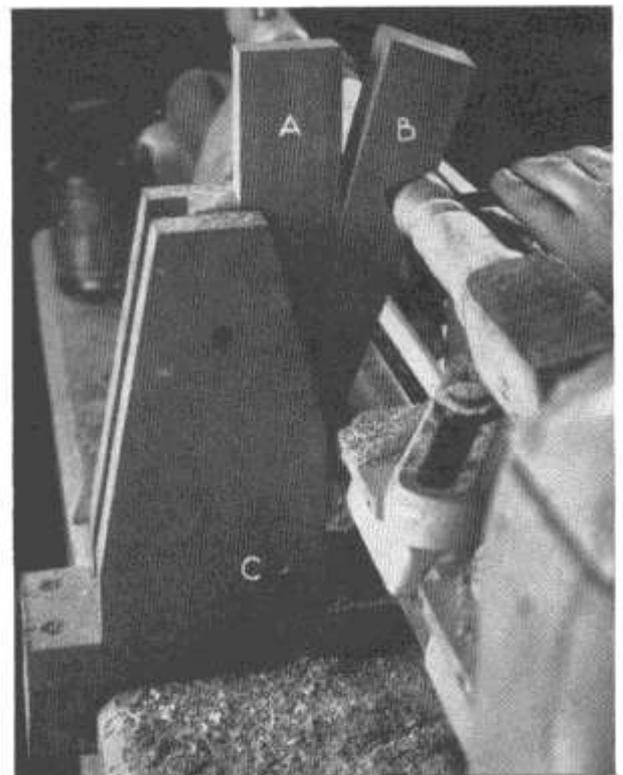


FIG. 8. SIMPLE WOOD STEADY MADE FOR MYFORD LATHE. The idea could be adapted to suit any make of lathe. (A) is the wedge which tends to drop down by gravity and keep the slip (B) up to the work. The slip is pivoted at (C).