



◀ Paul Sellers on the left

Crosscut

Journal of the Wits Woodworking Association

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Next meetings – Woodturners – Monday, 7th July 2025 from 18h00 at **Made in Workshop** –
Turning a spatula demo (as shown by Richard Raffan).

Main Club meeting – Wednesday, 9th July 2025 from 18h00 at **Made in Workshop** –
Bandsaw set-up and blade selection.

Don't forget we have the members' free raffle for those attending meetings - prizes normally have a minimum value of R1, 000.00

News

Woodturners – Monday, 2nd June 2025 from 18h00 at **Made in Workshop** – Work holding in the lathe without the use of a chuck.

Pierre showed how to use hotmelt glue in a jam chuck. Herman showed how to use a screw chuck, a faceplate and how to work between centres. Anesh showed how to make a screw chuck using a double ended screw (which are available from Gelmar, amongst others). Herman and Trevor showed examples of pin chucks.



Trevor showed how a multi-head live revolving tail centre with replaceable inserts can help with a number of different shapes and tasks when support is needed from the tail stock. The picture shows the version sold by Axminster – it is listed at R1550- but is out of stock at present. There is a clone listed on Temu for about R700-, but it is untested (*caveat emptor*). Creative Turning has a similar, but more elaborate product that can be seen on their web site, but it is quite a lot more expensive. See www.creativeturning.co.za for more information. Search for CT-LC-SET12. These are the 11 centres included with the Creative Turning 2MT 12 piece live centre set.



Some information on drill chucks and drawbars is given at the end of this newsletter.

Club meeting – Wednesday, 11th June 2025 from 18h00 at **Made in Workshop** – Bandsaw set-up and blade selection – This was postponed due to the MiW bandsaw needing repairs.

Trevor Pope spoke on **handsaw sharpening**. Examples of the different types of handsaws were shown and the different tooth profiles and uses explained. The approach to sharpening crosscut and rip saw blades was explained. He encouraged members to sharpen their own handsaws (with some exceptions).

For those that wish to sharpen their own handsaws, Paul Sellers (shown on the right) has very good advice and tutorials on this topic at -



<https://paulsellers.com/knowledge-base/saws-sharpening-refurbishment/>



The tutorials are very easy to follow and you should be inspired to tackle your own saws after watching him.

Calendar of Events for the remainder of 2025

KZN Woodturners' Symposium - 12 July 2025 – all day event 7h30 to 17h00 at the Roseway Waldorf School, Alverston Road, Assagay. (Close to Hillcrest and the N3). Amongst the presenters, whom AWSA members may remember, are Carel van der Merwe, Richard Hodsdon, Clyde Neumann, and Allan Ferguson. More information including the program and registration forms can be obtained from marcwoodslimited@gmail.com

Hardware Centre Winter Woodworking Expo –
26 July 2025 – Hardware Centre Randburg –
9h00 to 14h00.

AWSA Symposium 2025 – The Association of Woodturners of South Africa Annual Symposium will be held from the 3-6 October 2025, with international presenter Helen Bayley. You can view her work on <https://www.helenbaileywoodturning.com/>

The venue remains the same as last year (Northlink College, Tygerberg Campus, Rothchild Boulevard, Panorama Parow). For details and to register, visit www.awsa.org.za In addition, South Africa's leading turners will be demonstrating in the two breakaway rooms. Last year there were 111 attendees, this year could be bigger.



Summer Challenge - Saturday afternoon, 18th October 2025 at **MiW**. A competition to make beforehand and bring a wooden item for the kitchen. This can be turned or “flat-work” – cutting boards, spoons, rolling pins, salad bowls, pepper-mills, and trivets are examples of things you can make. Bring and braai. Most details to follow.

East Rand Woodworkers Association fair – Saturday, the 25th October 2025. Details and venue to be confirmed, but likely to be the Northmead Methodist church, Benoni as past years.

Toy-makers' Braai Saturday, 22nd November 2025.

The list of suppliers that donated to the 2024 event is given below. Please patronise them. If you can mention that you are from WWA and appreciated their donation, they will appreciate it.

CONTRIBUTING SUPPLIERS 2024

Supplier	
ANDROWARE (Blacksmith)	MATUS & Hi-KOKI
Asax Agencies	Metabo Power Tools
CCL	MITCO Tool Company
CGR Agencies	Pepper Mills for Africa
Creative Turning	Power Tool Repairs Cape Town
Eco Timbers	Prosono International
FEW	Richem CC
FIRST CUT	Robert Sorby
Genkem	Skillcraft Agencies (INGCO)
Gedore Tools	Spear & Jackson (ECLIPSE)
Häfele South Africa	Spectra Spray
Hamilton Brushware	Sprayon
HP Will	Stevens & Co (Ryobi)
Lasher Tools	Vermont Sales
Maple Street Timbers	Upat SA

Woodworking Association of Pretoria Wood and Craft Expo – 27 to 30 November 2025

Annual Subs are due. Please can you pay your R600- into the FNB account below? Please add your name and “SUBS” to the reason for payment so the treasurer can record your payment.

Reminder – New WWA Account

number with **FNB – 63026931287** –

please add this to your beneficiaries list.

Please make sure that your payment

can be identified by adding your **name**, perhaps cell number and **reason for payment**. Annotations such as “annual subs” or “WWA shirt” without your name are not helpful – Anesh will not be able to trace your payment. Please note that the **Nedbank account has been closed**.



Access times for **Made in Workshop** for WWA members :

MiW access control for WWA members – all current paid-up members who have attended a meeting have been issued with a bar code sticker to be used to gain access. Please remember to bring your bar code, so you aren't delayed at the entrance.

MiW times for WWA members are as follows

Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9AM to 12AM. However please take note of the following:

WWA members CANNOT just arrive at **MiW** and use machines unless they have booked them with **MiW**. This refers to the bookable machines such as the panel saw, thicknesser/planer, drum sander, spindle moulder as well as CNC machines of any kind. This applies only to the woodworking machines. The other machines require the purchase of a membership at the monthly (30 day) rate – which is a good rate anyhow.

Machines such as the bandsaw and the Triton router table need no booking.

Henry also requires that all the major machines may only be used if the WWA member is familiar and fully understands the importance of the correct and safe use of these machines. Speak to Graham regarding training and qualification to use machines.

MiW is a **Maker Space**, which means that members are able access the machines which are included in the list above. Access to the other machines and facilities is subject to additional fees as mentioned above. While **MiW** will provide assistance and training where necessary, members are responsible for providing materials and performing the work themselves. Members need to be skilled and competent to use the facilities to do the work. For example, if you wish to use a CNC machine, you will need to manually program the tool path on the machine or import it from a design tool that generates the tool path for you. There may be a steep learning curve, but that is part of the challenge.

Bookings can be made during office hours of 8h00 to 17h00, weekdays by contacting one of these numbers:

Henry – 083-269 9505; Josh – 083-768 7853; or Trenton – 081-365 6039

Schedule for Regular Events

1. Second Saturday of month at 9h00 at **Made in Workshop** – Herman – all things turning related – 083 631 0501 [hermanpotgieteresq AT gmail.com](mailto:hermanpotgieteresq@gmail.com)
2. **Show & Tell** meetings are held at Hardware Centre every Friday Morning at 09:30. All WWA members welcome. Contact Eugene on 0824953394 or eugene@antlerfin.co.za

This list is subject to change, so please consult your *Crosscut* each month for any updates.



Drill Chucks for use in the Lathe – How and Why to use a Drawbar

Trevor Pope

At the last turners' meeting, Herman showed the use of a drill chuck mounted on a #2 Morse Taper in the head-stock of the Creative Turning lathe. There were concerns raised about the chuck coming loose from the headstock taper, which did in fact occur during the demonstration. This occurs when there are cyclic i.e. repeated side loads on the chuck. To prevent this happening, it is good practise to use a draw-bar to hold the chuck in place in the headstock.

A draw bar may be made from threaded rod. For those unfamiliar with drawbars, I've included some explanations below:

This screen capture from Adendorff at <https://www.adendorff.co.za/search/?q=drill+chuck> is a typical product offering, that is useful to explain what is available.

MAC AFRIC Steel Drill Key Chuck (B-Series Taper) - 16 mm (B-16) (EACHUC016) R275.00	MAC AFRIC Morse Taper to B-Series Drill Chuck Arbor (tang end) - MT2-B16 (EARBOR001) R80.00	MAC AFRIC 16 MM (B18) Steel Keyless Chuck (EACHUC014) R435.00	MAC AFRIC Morse Taper to B-Series Drill Chuck Arbor (threaded end) - MT2-B18 (EARBOR006) R85.00
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On the left is a 16mm chuck that is tightened with a key. This is a useful size for woodturning and has many uses. The arbor is offered separately to provide the user with options. Next to it is the corresponding arbor, with a tang suitable for use in a drill press. The tang is the rectangular piece on the end of the longer #2 Morse taper, that engages in a slot in the quill of the drill press and serves two functions:

1. It stops the arbor spinning in the taper – a #2 Morse Taper in this case;
2. The tang can be used with a wedge to knock out the arbor from the taper in the quill if the user wishes to remove the chuck from the drill press.

At the back of the chuck is a tapered (female) recess with a B16 taper and on the arbor is a corresponding (male) B16 taper. This is a self-holding taper and is not normally intended to be disassembled. If there is no hole inside the chuck to provide access to a knock-out bar, it may be very difficult to remove once assembled, so be aware.

On the right of the picture is a keyless chuck, also without an arbor. I have a similar chuck, bought from Adendorff, which I find very useful – 16mm is a good size.

This chuck has a B18 taper on the back, and on its right is the matching B18 arbor. It has a threaded hole in the end which is suitable for a draw-bar. The thread is M8. A typical lathe with a 1" x 8tpi head-stock thread and a #2 Morse taper socket, will have a 5/16" (8mm) hole through the spindle.

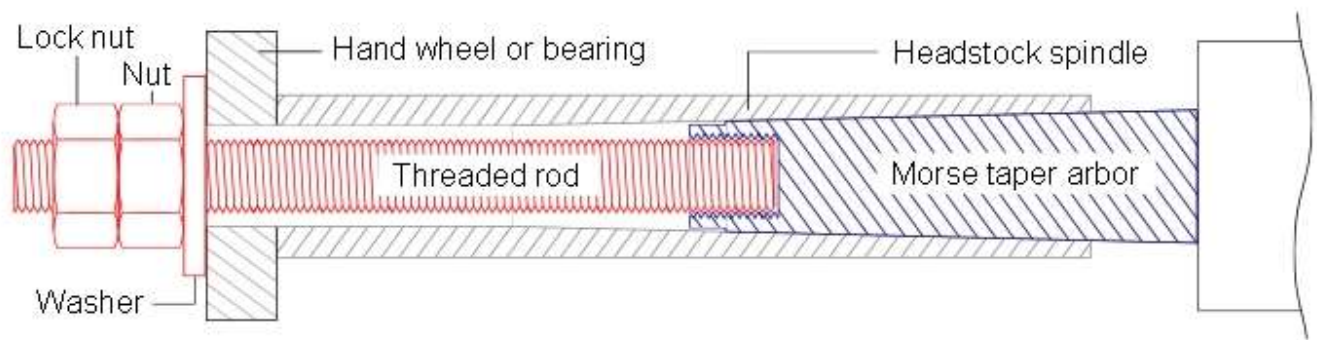
To make a draw-bar, buy a length of threaded rod, M8 in this case. With the arbor fitted into the headstock taper, the threaded rod is then screwed into the arbor. It will then stick out the back of the headstock some distance. To hold it in place, I suggest a washer under an M8 nut, and a M8 wingnut or large threaded knob, to lock the M8 nut onto the shaft. Then you can see where to cut the threaded rod, allowing a few extra

threads to pull the #2 MT into the head-stock. Resist the temptation to tighten the nut too much as you may find that the #2 MT in your headstock locks very tight and it is difficult to remove the arbor from the headstock.

Note: Don't leave the excess length of threaded rod sticking out the left-hand side of the headstock – it is unsafe. When the lathe is running, you may find it snags your clothing, drawing you onto the rod and causing a serious injury. Also, if the rod is not dead straight, it won't run true and at higher speeds may whip and even bend over. If you are in the way, this can also injure you or damage your lathe.

If you are buying a separate chuck and arbor, it is important to match the B tapers. Also check the size of the thread in the arbor is not too big for the bore in your headstock. Most lathes with a #2 MT headstock should be OK. Older Record lathes have a #1 MT in the headstock – so be aware of this.

Some threaded arbors come with a threaded plug to protect the threads, when a knock-out bar is used to remove the arbor from the taper. The Adendorff arbor that I have didn't come with a threaded plug, so I screw in a short length of threaded rod which can absorb blows from a knock-out bar without damage to the threads in the arbor. An M8 bolt will need the head grinding down if you wish to use it to protect the end of the arbor.



This diagram showing the cross-section of a lathe headstock with a drawbar fitted through the spindle comes from here:

<https://www.beaufortink.co.uk/how-to-make-a-lathe-draw-bar>

Here is a short YouTube video by Mike Pearce on a drawbar for Morse Tapers that explains why you need one, and how to make one. There are others, so choose your favourite turner to watch.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JfxggSe3cz8>