

Crosscut

Newsletter of the Witwatersrand Woodworkers' Association

◀Chairman Alistair Brande at the first meeting in the Living Link hall PO Box 411346, Craighall, 2024

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Next General Club Meeting on Wednesday, the 5th September 2012 from 18h00 at CNC Routing at Woodfinish Management, Alberton – address to be communicated.

Next Turner's monthly meeting is on Monday, the 3rd September 2012 at 18h00 at the WWA clubhouse at the Living Link Hall. Steven Barrett will talk on the Rolly Monroe Hollowing Tool and Buddy Lawson on how to make a Vacuum Chuck.

News

August Turner's Meeting - Screw chucks. Peter Middleton showed some examples of shop-made screw chucks. He explained how to make them and the principle of operation. The body of the screw chuck is wood gripped in the jaws of a conventional chuck. The screw is made from an 8mm furniture screw located with a T-nut and a nylock nut. The furniture screws are available from Peter.

Wood of the Month was Burmese Teak – *Tectona Grandis*.

August Main Club Meeting - Router tables. Dennis Lock gave a presentation on the making of router tables. He explained the important principles for the successful functioning of a table and how these should be incorporated into the design. Dennis showed two approaches to the design – a poor man's router table and a rich man's router table and how he built examples of each. He showed an example of a melamine covered top and a fence that simply clamps to the top.



Club Notices:

Association of Woodturners of South Africa. The AWSA has been dormant for the past year, but they plan to hold a national symposium at Thornton Technikon in Cape Town from the 21st to 24th September 2012. No accommodation is available at the venue, but there are many B&B's in the vicinity. They have requested that affiliated clubs contribute R50.00 per member per annum to AWASA. This will enable them to waive the entrance fee to the symposium as it should cover the costs of the guest demonstrator, who would then also be able to visit the contributing clubs. A show of hands indicated that most of our members present at the meeting were in favour of the R50.00 subscription. This will be discussed further by the committee. Rick Florence is the AWSA representative for the WWA.

East Rand Woodworking Association Fair – 01st September 2012 – at the Northfield Methodist church, Benoni. At the corner of Webb St and Aerodrome Avenue, Airfield (just off Great North Road) from 9h00 to 14h00. Safe parking in church grounds – entrance from Hurricane Avenue (GPS: 26°09' 59.84" S, 28°18' 48.79" E) Contact Bill Parrack (Chairman) on 011-849-5643 or Denis Lock on 011-616-6576, 082-267-5948 or at [denis.lock AT worldonline.co.za](mailto:denis.lock@worldonline.co.za) for further information. See also www.erwa.co.za

Pretoria Woodworkers/Houtwerkvereniging – Annual Exhibition – 13th October 2012 – 08h00 to 14h00 at the New Hope School, Cecilia Street, Ashlea Gardens. Go to www.ptawoodworkers.co.za for more info or contact 084-515-2773.

For Sale:

Woodturning Lathe. Woodster 250mm swing over bed 445mm between centres. Brand new (tested only). On stand with castors (lockable) c/w usual accessories, Face Plate, Drive Centre, Live centre (Tailstock) Spanners etc. Price R3200- current price ,m/c only retails at R4400- Contact: Peter Middleton on 011-702 2071 or 082 807 0920

Record Power Woodturning Lathe Model CL1 36 x 15. Made in Sheffield England Bought new and hardly used : Price R3,500-

Woodworking Vice 1 R400-

Heavy Duty Vice 2 R400-

Drill press for hand drill R75-

My son emigrated to Australia three years ago and left some of his tools with me. He now wants me to sell them for him. Contact Glen de la Mare on 083-2273058 or glendlm AT iafrica.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. They also make toys, several of which were displayed at the braai, and 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 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 or gmackay AT worldonline.co.za for more information.

The picture the right shows Roger Matthews (on left) handing over a wall clock he made to customer Mike Tudhope.

The recently completed clock houses a German made Hermle 8-day movement with Westminster chimes.

The wooden case is built from American grown White Oak, and the design follows those popular in the 1920 and 1930's, but with a customised arch.



I'M AT HOME MOST SATURDAY MORNINGS
FROM 9-00AM TO 12-00 NOON
COME ALONG - BY ARRANGEMENT

- ❖ For coffee, biscuits and a chat
- ❖ No obligation to buy
- ❖ Creates good fellowship
- ❖ Word of mouth promotes sales

I have in stock a full range of Record Irwin Lathe accessories,
Record Irwin wood turning tools, Record Irwin hand tools,
Record metal/wood band saw blades
AND MY OWN WELL KNOWN JIGS

I CAN MACHINE TOOLING ACCORDING TO CLIENTS IDEAS, NEEDS AND DRAWINGS

Lionel Soekoe 60 Darwin Street CNR Bowling avenue Wendywood
Tel (011) 802 3046 or 072 989 6310

A close up view shows more detail.



Sawdust and Shavings – what can you do with them?

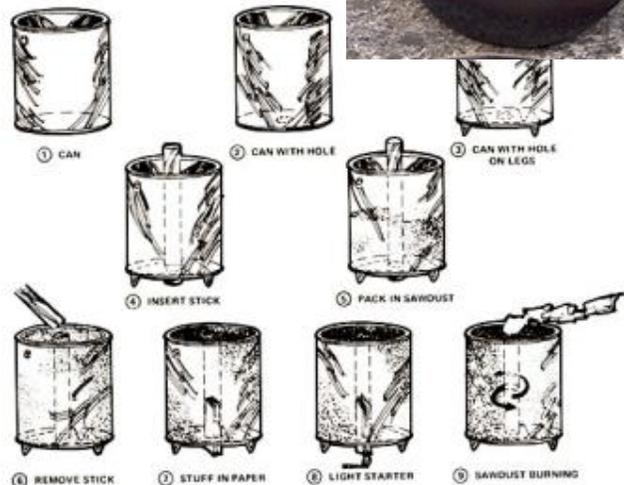
Trevor Pope

After a busy weekend, cleaning out the workshop can leave you with bins full of sawdust and shavings. Here are some ideas on what to do with them.

1. **Compost.** Put them on the compost heap. When they have decomposed, spread them on the garden. The compost heap should be a mixture of sawdust and other garden waste such as leaves, grass cuttings and other green cuttings to allow rapid decomposition. The bacteria that decompose brown materials need additional nitrogen that can be provided by the green material, failing which the addition of LAN will speed up decomposition. The LAN will not be wasted, as it will become chemically available again once the decomposition process is finished.



2. **Mulch.** Mulch is a layer of inert material on top of the soil that suppresses weeds and reduces moisture loss. A layer of mulch can be up to 10cm thick. As it slowly decomposes, it will tend to require additional nitrogen, so the addition of LAN can stop the plants in the bed from becoming nitrogen deficient.
3. **Mushrooms.** As part of a bed for growing mushrooms, with compost and manure, sawdust and shavings, apparently mushrooms will thrive.
4. **Landscaping.** Cover walkways with a layer of shavings to suppress weeds and reduce erosion.
5. **Bonfire.** Keep the cold weather at bay with a fire in a fire basket while you ritually char your meat over a charcoal fire.
6. **Ceramic raku firings.** Raku pots are clay pots fired in kiln and then covered in an additional source of carbon such as sawdust to impart surface colouring and texture. Apparently, the sawdust



creates a reducing atmosphere, which is oxygen poor and this causes chemical changes in the glazes, creating unpredictable effects.

- 7. Make a Sawdust Stove.** A metal cylinder packed with dry sawdust, with an open core, that burns from the inside out, will burn for hours with a smokeless flame.
<http://www.motherearthnews.com/Do-It-Yourself/1974-11-01/How-To-Sawdust-Stove.aspx>

- 8. Make Fire Bricks.** A mixture of sawdust and biodiesel, packed into bricks for burning in a stove.
[the Fire Brick](#)

- 9. Firestarters.** Melted candle wax mixed with sawdust to form a stiff mixture, poured into small egg size moulds, wrapped in paper make effective fire starters.

[Firestarters from Old Candle Wax and Sawdust](#)



- 10. Sawdust Toilet.** A dry toilet with a layer of sawdust used to cover after each use to prevent odours. When full, it is emptied out into a composting chamber for decomposition and reuse as fertiliser. The nitrogen in urine assists with the decomposition of the sawdust.

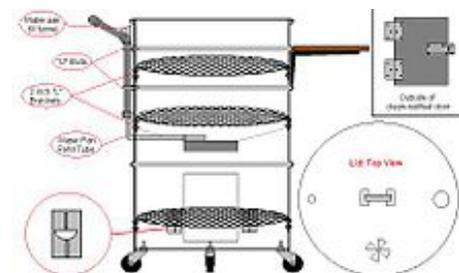
[How to make and use a sawdust toilet](#)



- 11. Clean up Spills.** Use sawdust to soak up oil and other liquid spills. Wet sawdust will also capture fine dust, so that it can be swept up without spreading it further.

- 12. Make a face pack.** Mix sawdust with therapeutic mud for spreading on your face for a refreshing face-pack. (Then take pictures for publication here...)

- 13. Use in a smoker.** Selected woods can be used in a smoker to cure and flavour meat, fish, etc. Ask Roy Gibbs for advice on which species to use. The picture from Wikipedia shows a drum smoker. Avoid species with known toxicity such as Tamboti, Oleander, etc



- 14. Bedding for animals.** Woodchips and shavings can be used for bedding for all sorts of animals from Guinea Pigs to horses. Again, avoid species with known toxicity such as Tamboti, Oleander, etc.

- 15. Burnishing finishes.** A handful of shavings can be used to burnish spindle turnings spinning on the lathe. Also when applying wax, shavings can be used to burnish the surface to a shine, once the wax has hardened.

- 16. As gap filler.** Fine sawdust, mixed with PVA wood glue or epoxy glue, can be used as a gap filler. Alternatively fill the crack with saw dust and drop thin Cyanoacrylate glue into the saw dust.

- 17. Make fake snow.** Mix sawdust with white paint and glue it to craft items to simulate snow.

18. Fuel your Woodgas generator. Those with memories that go back far enough to the petrol rationing during World War 2 may remember some vehicles converted to run off coal or wood gas. Incomplete combustion in a gasifier produces a hydrocarbon gas that can be used as a fuel in an engine or a stove. (See www.driveonwood.com for more.)

Don't use sawdust from treated timber. Treated timber with a greenish hue has been treated with CCA (Copper Chromium Arsenic). Blackish treated timber has probably been soaked in Creosote. Dispose of this sawdust safely, and keep it away from people, animals or the food chain. Don't burn it either as toxic fumes may be given off.

Credits: <http://www.toolcrib.com/blog/2008/06/28-ways-to-recycle-and-reuse-sawdust-and-woodchips>
www.wikipedia.org

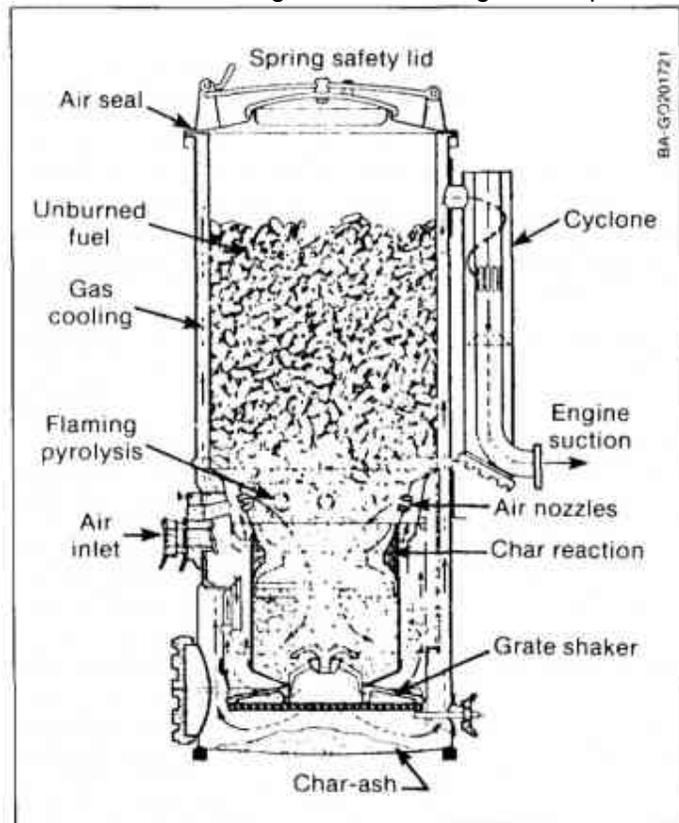


Fig. 5-2. Imbert (nozzle and constricted hearth) gasifier (Source: Gengas 1950, Fig. 75)