



# Crosscut

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

◀ Nova Comet II lathe purchased to replace the Record.

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**Next General Club Meeting on Wednesday, the 11 September 2013** from 18h00 at WWA clubhouse at the Living Link Hall. Using a Leigh Jig – Wally Pretorius and a new Dowelling Jig – Lionel Soekoe

**Next Turner's monthly meeting is on Monday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013** at 18h00 at the WWA clubhouse at the Living Link Hall. Turning Multiple Bowls by Roy Gibbs

## News

**August Turner's Meeting** – John Speedy showed how he makes a caddy spoon. (A caddy spoon is a wooden spoon traditionally used for dispensing tea from a tea caddy.) The picture shows John turning the ball shape which is the precursor for the scoop for the spoon. ▶

John then showed how the ball is cut in half and hollowed out make the scoop and the steps to finish the spoon. John estimates he has made between 2500 and 3500 spoons to date.

(The technique John uses follows from that demonstrated by Phil Irons during his visit in 2001 and illustrated in his book, which is still available. At that stage Phil estimated he had made 30000 spoons (if I recall correctly), which at £4- each was a living for him at the time.)

**Wood of the month was Coastal Ironwood.** This is a generic name, but it can be identified as *Olea Capensis Capensis* or *O.C. Macrocarpa* or *Vepris Lanceolata*. It occurs throughout Southern Africa, although it is not common. This wood may be available from MrWoodturner in PE. The mouldable silicone rubber mentioned is called sugru and is available from [sugru.com](http://sugru.com).

**August Meeting** – The Ryobi Table saw as documented in Crosscut over the last two months was shown and discussed. A technique for designing and making a toy car using the scroll saw was demonstrated by Trevor Pope. A detailed description of the steps required is given at the end of the newsletter.

## Club Notices:

Thanks to John Speedy for donating a piece of Tambotie for auction – it raised R140.00.  
Thanks to Rose Spurr for donating jars of her world famous marmalade which sold out in minutes and raised R120.00 for club funds

The purchase of a Scheppach HA 1000 Dust Extractor was approved at the main club meeting and has been purchased. See <http://www.newcopowertools.co.za> for more info on Scheppach products.



Thanks to those who donated paint, creosote and other items to the club and to the members who attended the workshop on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> August – all objectives were achieved and Lionel's birthday cake was enjoyed by all. You can see the creosote being used to refinish the guard hut at the Living Link by Costa, Shaun and Barries in the picture. Alistair and Frans were busy on the other side.

**Spring Challenge** with a Braai. Now the **12<sup>th</sup> October 2013**. The theme is “A Toy for Westview Clinic” Barries to do the judging and we could also possibly invite Daphne to be another judge. There will also be a “Table Lamp Challenge” with both turned and non-turned entries welcome.

There will also be a Turners Challenge for you to demonstrate your skills on the day making a sphere for advanced turners with a skew or any chisel for intermediates or a mushroom for beginners – prizes for the best.



**WWA Open Day** – Postponed to July/August 2014 unless a Project Manager can be found to drive it. The date of the 09 Nov 2013 will be used for a craft fair, where members will be encouraged to demonstrate and sell wooden items.

**Nova Comet II** – new club lathe. When a good offer was received to purchase the club’s Record lathe, the committee received approval from the club and sold it, as the Record was hardly used. In its place in the clubhouse you will see a new Nova Comet II lathe. This lathe is more portable than the Record and will be used for demonstrations in place of the Jet Mini when appropriate. It also shares common accessories with the other two lathes, namely the No 2 Morse Taper and similar spindle thread to the Jet (1” x 8tpi). The specs for the Comet II are:



**Nova Comet II - Product Technical Specification:**

- **Bowl turning capacity:** 12”/300mm inboard.
- **Between centers:** Standard 16.5”/419mm. Extendable to 42”/1066mm, using optional bed extension accessory.
- **HP:** 3/4HP, 120v single phase, 60HZ, Variable Speed
- **Speed range:** 250 - 4000rpm (in three speed ranges using a three step pulley) – The speed control is integrated with a No-Volt Release starter. ▶
- **Spindle Thread:** 1”8TPI RH
- **Tailstock:** 2MT hollow, quill travel 1.6”/40.60mm



The **Jet 1221VS** is an alternative to the Comet II, but it is only expected in SA later this year according to Brian Jolly at Strand Hardware. It will probably be priced somewhat higher than the Comet II. It has very similar specs to the Comet II. If you are in the market for a Midi lathe at the end of the year, it may well be worth a look.

(1221VS ? – In the Jet model numbering system, this refers to a lathe with a capacity of 12” swing and 21” between centres. VS means variable speed – you can see the speed control integrated on the base at the right hand side.)



**Pretoria Woodwork Exhibition / Houtwerk Uitstalling.** The Woodworking Association of Pretoria will be again holding their annual exhibition at the New Hope School on the **05<sup>th</sup> Oct 2013** from 08h00 to 14h00. (The New Hope School is a specialist school for children with various disabilities.) The school is in Cecilia, just West of the N1, close to the Atterbury Off-ramp. GPS co-ords S 25° 46’ 43.70”, E 28° 16’ 02.21”. See [www.ptawoodworkers.com](http://www.ptawoodworkers.com) or contact 084 515 2773 for more information.





10<sup>th</sup> Annual East Rand Woodworking Association (ERWA) Annual Fair – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2013 Venue: Northfield Methodist Church, Northmead, Benoni (corner Aerodrome Avenue and Webb Street) from 9 am to 2 pm, free – safe parking in church grounds – entrance is in Hurricane Avenue (GPS: 26° 09' 59.84" S, 28° 18' 48.79" E) Information: Georg Stroebel (082-497-5065) / Denis Lock (011-616-6576) (See [www.erwa.co.za](http://www.erwa.co.za) for more.)

**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. 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. The picture shows two wooden trains completed by the Saturday Workshop group. Ken is on the left. ▶

**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@web.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.

**For sale:**

Disc sander 525mm (21") with tilting table, 1 hp motor, on castors, spare discs. (Self-built) Price negotiable. Contact Ken Bullivant on 082-809-0020

The WWA has a **Belt and Disc Sander** (Machine Shop brand) for sale and will sell it via a silent auction. It can be viewed in the clubhouse before the next Turners and Club meetings and sealed bids must be given to Graham Rudings the club treasurer before the close of the club meeting on 11th September 2013.

URGENTLY REQUIRED Greg Hirschson urgently requires a **medium/heavy duty radial arm saw** – it can be either single or three phase but must be in excellent condition. Contact Greg on 083 450 8025 or [greg.capewindowsgroup@absamail.co.za](mailto:greg.capewindowsgroup@absamail.co.za)

**Custom Table wanted.** Dumisa Siko is looking for someone to make him a table as per the attached specifications – to date he has not had a response – please contact him on 076 185 3790 or [sikod@eskom.co.za](mailto:sikod@eskom.co.za) if you are interested in taking on the job. The table must be made of wood only. No metal screws shall be used to assemble the table. Dimensions: Length = 176 cm Width = 102 cm Height = 96 cm



## Making a small toy car – the steps from the August 2013 meeting

Trevor Pope

1. Make the wheels and axles. For the wheels, I cut them from ply wood, using a hole-saw on the drill press. The wheels shown were cut from 19mm shutter ply, using a hole-saw with an outside diameter of 28 mm, yielding wheels with a diameter of about 24 mm. The centre drill on the hole-saws I use is ¼" (6.35mm), which suits the 6mm dowel I use for the axles. The hardwood dowel I used for the axles is not very precise – the diameter can be up 6.8mm, so the fit in the ¼" holes in the wheels will vary – use sandpaper on the ends to reduce to a tight fit as required. To finish the wheels, I mount them on screw chuck on the lathe, add some details with a gouge and smooth them with sandpaper. The wheels can be stained and varnished as required.



2. Sketch out the overall shape on a rectangular block of wood – the starting piece of wood for this model was 110 mm long x 48mm wide x 36 mm high of SA Pine. (A piece of  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ " = 114 x 38mm S5 grade pine can be used to make a lot of cars.) The limitation in this case was that the width had to fit the maximum size that the scroll saw can handle.

Obviously the sizes will vary according to your design and the size of the wheels. The locations of the wheels are the first points to be determined. Then sketch out the design around the wheels. Also sketch out the interior in relation to the wheels to ensure it will fit. This is where you can exercise your creativity and design skills. None of the dimensions are critical – use your judgement to select proportions that are pleasing to the eye. If the first one is ugly, try something else for the next one.

Bear in mind that the end user is a toddler or small child, so make all the parts robust.

3. Drill out the axle holes on a drill press to ensure that they are square to the sides. For 6mm dowel, I use a 7mm hole to allow for the inaccuracies in the dowels.
4. Place the wheels in line with the holes using dowels and mark out the wheel wells, allowing one or two mm extra for clearance.

5. Cut out the outside shape. This is probably best done on bandsaw with a narrow blade, but can be done using a scroll saw or by hand with a fret saw.

6. Mark out the slices to be cut off the sides. Slice them off using a narrow saw blade. A table saw can be used, but you need to allow for the wide kerf of the blade and you must use some sort of cross-cut sled and/or a hold-down for safety, because of the small sizes of the parts.

7. Cut out the wheel wells in the sides by holding them together – a scroll saw is probably the best for this.

8. Mark out the interior and cut it out. The first picture shows the parts laid out after cutting.

9. Study the interior and finish off all the parts that will not be accessible with the sides glued back on, using files and sandpaper. The seat was stained blue using a Wooddoc Gel Stain.

10. Glue the sides back on to the interior, being careful to line up the parts, to reduce the amount of hand work required later. To avoid glue on the parts that will be exposed, it may be helpful to mark out the gluing area with a pencil. The second picture shows the sides glued in place.

11. Finish off the outside, cleaning up saw marks and trimming the details by eye. Knock off all the sharp edges with fine sandpaper, to prevent injuries to little fingers. The last picture shows the body prior to gluing, held together with an elastic band, and wheels also dry fitted. The outside is still rough.

12. Stain and finish the body as required.

13. Fit the wheels and axles. The axles were a tight fit into the wheels, so just a drop of white cold glue was used to glue the wheels onto the axles.

14. Add any extras to suit, such as headlights, a grill, etc – this is up to your imagination.

