

2022

# Cambium



June



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### **Meetings & Events 2022**

7 June.	Guild Meeting:	Carving Group
5 July	Guild Meeting	Non woodwork "Show & Tell"
2 Aug.	Guild Meeting:	Experience of Nelson School
6 Sept	Guild Meeting	Turners Group
4 Oct.	Guild meeting	Greens Group
1 Nov	Guild Meeting	Fine Woods Group
5 Nov	Pataka opens	Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> Woodwork demos
6 Dec	Christmas Meeting & competitions	

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### ***EDITORIAL***

The Guild/Hutt Art exhibition at the Thistle Hall can be considered a success despite fewer visitors than expected. Foot traffic in Upper Cuba St was noticeably lower than last year although it can be said that many

of those who did visit complimented Gallery minders on the variety and quality of items on display.

Similar comments can be made about the recent MenzShed/Hutt Art exhibition in the Odlins Gallery. Again the juxtaposition of paintings and woodturned items worked very well visually and I found Gallery minding a very pleasant way of spending three hours of my time, items to look at, new turning designs to consider and interesting people to talk to about how things were made. As far as the woodturners exhibiting were concerned for many this was their first exhibition and their first opportunity to sell what they had made. This can be a bitter/sweet experience but all I spoke to were pleased that someone chose to buy their piece or pieces when so many other pieces were there for them to choose.

Personally, I believe the “Exhibition” situation can teach the newer ‘artist’ so much. It demands a closer scrutiny of the pieces being prepared for entry and clearly demands a high standard of presentation to the potential customer. That includes clearly and neatly naming the pieces, careful consideration of the sale pricing, and the careful construction and labelling of accompanying boxes. Obviously, consideration must be given to the finish of items on display and this requirement can sometimes reveal areas of technique weakness that need to be improved.

And equally important, exhibitions such as these are significant ways of showing the general public what the Guild and the MenzShed are doing to develop skills in, and awareness of, and the creation of, pieces of a high standard.

And finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank David Firth for his work with the Thistle Hall Exhibition and Iris Kauffeld for giving the MenzShed turners the inspiration to want to take their work to a higher level and the opportunity for them to try and sell their work.

**HDM**

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## Thistle Hall

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### **President's Corner**

Following our AGM in May we have a few changes to our Guild Committee. Two members have decided to stand down; Brian Cropp who has served on the Committee for as long as I can recall, and David Feind

is moving to Christchurch. Many thanks to them for their ideas, efforts, and words of wisdom. We also need to welcome new members who have come along to help keep the Guild going – Mark Wilkins is back with us and Bruce Christianson and Grant Miles have joined to give their support. At the Hutt Art Society the exhibition for the Muriel Hopper awards is coming up and forms (available on the website) need to be submitted by 10 June. There is usually a mixture of painting and 3D artworks. The items are adjudicated, so not all entries will necessarily go into the exhibition- we encourage you all to enter as it us an opportunity to show off our skills. And... you never know, you may win an award.

Later on in November we have our Festival of Wood exhibition at Pataka to look forward to. On Sat 19 November we plan to have demonstrations in the concourse. One event will have spinning tops for kids to colour and take away with them. What other sort of demos we have will be up to Guild members to come forward. Please think about this and let me know what you have to offer.

Last Monday I ended up doing something I have not done before – a session of woodwork while being filmed and photographed. A few days before I received a call from the Forestry Owners Associations which is doing some media work to promote timber. We rustled up a few woodwork projects and helpers to create a bridle joint frame, some boxes, chair making and some bowl turning. They seemed interested in the movement, action and dust of machinery – although creating thin shavings from a plane really fascinated them. After a half day of filming we will see what eventuates.

And another reminder – Graeme McIntyre is in short supply of wig-stands to help patients who are in need of them. If you have a few spare bits of wood and a little spare time, it is a good chance to have a practice making a stand or two.

***Happy Woodworking***  
**Nick**

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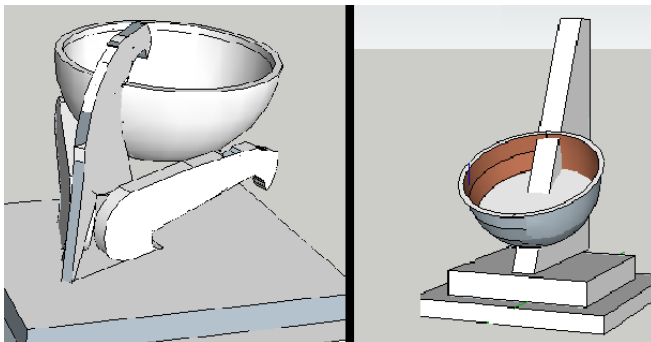
## MICHAEL'S File

### A Sailing Trophy for the Blind

I do not have a qualification in design but everybody is entitled to their own views right?

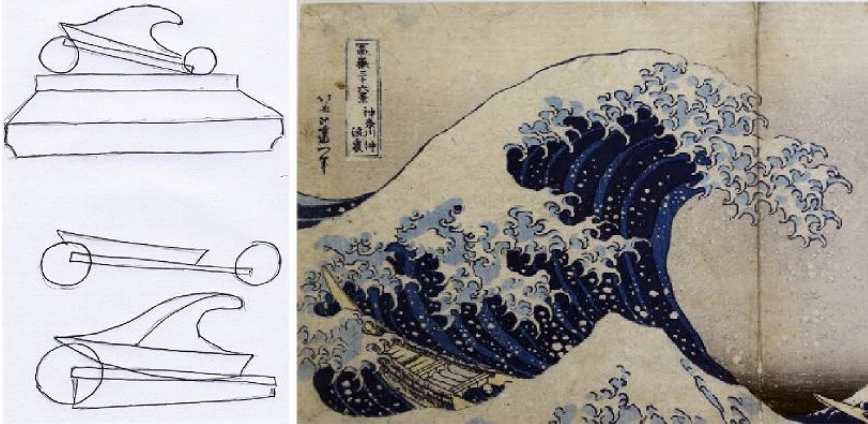
There are free courses on-line as you can see by visiting this site, <https://www.courses.org/learn/.design>. Design should look good and perform well, even if all they have to do is look good. Utilitarian designs have to perform well, both form and function.

A request for a sailing trophy for blind sailors stimulated some ideas: it had to be tactile and it had to have surfaces for names on the shield with braille notation. Several ideas were drawn and, after discussion with Nick Crocker, who does know about design, two were presented to the Sailorability trustees. Nick advised not to present too many ideas – limited choice reduces the complexity of discussion and decision making



The designs involved a representation of waves, a sail, and, another, a boat on water with waves; in retrospect the latter was more appropriate. Designs evolve as did this one. In the end a sketch of wave, boat and sail won the day with the client.

Sketch drawings are all you need to start with, they help progress an idea. Representing the mast and sail realistically would be tricky and so a large breaking wave was substituted – and it was based on Hokusai's Kanagawa print.



Making the plinth was not difficult (made from a recycled rimu pile), the hull of the boat was made using the technique of inside-out turning (see NAW March 2022) and the sea was made of recycled oak and a short length of large diameter dowelling. The ripples on the sea were created using a Dremel Sanding drum. This was all eminently tactile.

The Kanagawa print had to be transformed from 2D into 3D to be tactile. The whole wave outline was traced onto ply and cut out (the body of the wave). The 'white/blue' frothy parts of the wave were then traced and two versions cut out – after sanding these were glued each side of the body.

The final product was acceptable to all and is waiting to be awarded once regattas recommence after this plague is over



**MICHAEL HARRISON**

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## **Either they go or you go” - one solution.**

After two years of no craft fairs and the chance for sales to help support the hobby, my collection of unsold stock being stored around the house was reaching alarming proportions. The message was becoming more insistent: “ Either they go or you go”. Well, this is overstating the message somewhat, but only somewhat.

So, when an empty shop appeared in Karori Village last year it seemed an opportunity to try a pop-up shop. The shop had been vacated by the local optometrist who had moved into a recently vacated ANZ space. It was in a building bought by a local couple for development later this year and had been vacant for some months. After tracking down the new owners, they generously agreed to allow me use of the shop space for the four weeks before Christmas.

Getting the power reconnected was going to take some weeks so the alternative for





lighting was using several lamps with rechargeable batteries (on sale from Mitre 10 for \$20). These were taken home each night for recharging and along with a number of small Christmas tree lights (like those on the table), and other decorations, proved quite adequate. Contact was made with the local Karori Business Association. They did a plug on the local FaceBook page "*I love Karori*" and also found a fellow crafter of soft goods. She used the half of the shop I did not need and with skills of decoration which I do not possess, she made the whole premises look very inviting. We were also able to look after the shop while the other was on a coffee break etc. The different stock we each sold complemented the other and definitely attracted many

more people to the shop than we would have done alone.

So how successful was the venture? Well the look of the shelves behind me in the photo give some indication – they were looking decidedly bare at that stage, about a week before the shop closed on Christmas eve. Naturally, many people were looking for Christmas presents. One lady made my day by buying nine items with the comment "I want to buy in Karori, and I want to buy made in Karori". This seemed to be a common thought. To my great surprise, items I had made sometimes years ago were sold and also a number of orders were placed for things people wanted or I had sold out of.

I remember a conversation with Terry Scott some years ago about the pop-up shop run by the South Auckland Wood-turners before Christmas each year. He told me that the average selling price for items there was \$29.50. I was not greatly surprised therefore to find my average selling price was almost exactly the same. Clearly this is not the best way of selling high end decorated bowls or platters but for the largely utilitarian items I make it seemed to work well.

Apart from selling a large amount of accumulated stock, and some healthy bankings, the other real pleasure of this whole venture was meeting so many lovely people, of all ages, who came into the shop. Many simply wanted to look and touch and to "talk wood". It made me realise again what a great hobby we enjoy.

**David Marshall**

## REVISED TOOL DEFINITIONS

(Thanks to Naenae MenzShed newsletter.)

### 1. **Wirewheel**

Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them under the workbench with the speed of light.

Also removes fingerprints and hard earned callouses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say "Oh Shit".

### 2. **Drill Press**

A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching wood blanks or flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in your chest.

### 3 **Table Saw**

A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity

### 4 **Band Saw**

Another large stationary power saw primarily used to cut large pieces of wood into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the firewood box after you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge.

### 5. **Wood lathe**

Often used to create shapely firewood and to throw roughly rounded wood across the workshop. Also an effective machine for turning solid wood into material ideally suited for composting. Can also quickly fold loose clothing in a circular fashion and remove long hair in the blink of an eye.

### 6. **Straight screwdriver**

A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert slotted screws into non-removable screws.

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## **WOODCUT NEW ZEALAND MINI SYMPOSIUM**

### **Masterton Saturday 28 May**

Last Saturday a group of 12, a mixture of Guild and Naenae MenzShed members, travelled to Masterton to attend the above symposium at which Dan Hewitt, the owner of the Woodcut New Zealand Company, talked about the development of the Napier Company and discussed the evolution of Woodturning tools that the Company created or helped to develop. He also discussed the development of the steel used, the shape of the cutting face and various sharpening techniques and relevant jigs.

A considerable length of time was devoted to discussing their hollowing tools, the application of the tool and their creation. An opportunity was given for attendees to try these tools but for some reason very few took up the invitation.

Another area of interest was the new coring tool and an accompanying explanation of how it evolved and how to use it. For those who are newer to woodturning the coring tool enables you to cut two or three blanks out of the one large piece of wood – obviously this enables a considerable monetary saving. The process should take place when the wood is still wet to prevent heat build-up which can cause considerable cracking which I discovered in my early attempt at using this apparatus several years ago. It was great for cutting blanks from pieces of Red beech burrs but I lost some good pieces of nicely dried Rimu through heat cracking-so much so that I have never used it again for coring dry wood.

The event took place in the Masterton Guild's new rooms in a lovely large house/building which used to be, of all things in a city, a trout Hatchery, which had not been used for many years and had fallen into disrepair and had been heavily targeted by

vandals. The Masterton Guild was given rent free access to the building and there was a lot of envy expressed about the variety of spaces available.

Nick Crozier, the Masterton President, was delighted with the size of our attending group and has since emailed me to discuss the possibility of woodturning competitions and demonstrations involving our two Guilds in the future.

## **WOODCUT TOOL'S HOLLOWING TIPS**

- Set gauge about 1mm thick cut
- Tool rest should be set 10mm below centre and progressively move the tool rest up as the cut gets deeper.
- Start Hollowing close to the tool rest.
- Hold the tool in horizontal plane or above level
- Introduce the cutter at an angle of 10 degrees down.
- Lathe speed up to 600rpm
- Rotate the wood anti clockwise and introduce to tool on the left inside surface
- Be firm with the cut at all times. Being tentative will ultimately lead to an uneven cut or a catch.

It was an interesting and enjoyable morning and would have been particularly useful for the newer members of our woodturning group who attended because it gave them a further opportunity to learn how tools were developed and what tools are available and their particular use.

**HDM**

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## SUB-GROUPS

TURNERS – Coordinator Hugh Mill 5692236  
CARVERS -- Coordinator: Sam Hillis 5297105  
Meeting at Naenae Menz Shed - (3rd Tuesday 7-9 pm)  
GREEN WOODWORKERS - Coordinator: Eric Cairns 5267929  
FURNITURE GROUP - Coordinator: Mark Wilkins (2<sup>nd</sup> Tues)

*These groups provide us with an opportunity for more a like-minded fellowship; and a chance to further develop those skills that you have so far experienced.*

### **Guild Committee**

President	Nick Crocker	4790404
Vice President		
Secretary	Phil King	0212506467
Treasurer	David Firth	021398241
Membership Sec	Warwick Smith	0274853770
Webmaster	Paul Dudding	0211882656
	Mark Wilkins	021428187
	Dave Winthrop	0274420167
	Bruce Christenson	5277300
	Grant Miles	021483868
Library	Gordon Crichton	02102475290
	John Piper	0274538950

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Cambium Editor	Hugh Mill	5692236
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**Life Members** : Denis Newton, Neil Gandy, Ken Cox, John Spittal,  
Hugh Mill, Archie Kerr, Jack Fry, Eric Cairns, Sam Hillis  
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