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### ***EDITORIAL***

During the year I have noticed that there have been several new members joining the Guild and enquiring about the possibility of joining woodturning classes at the Naenae MenzShed and that has caused me to reflect on the two entities, each with their own way of operating, one in its own building and the other using the Naenae College library as its' meeting place. Both have similar aims – one to foster an interest in and the development of skills in the various aspects of woodworking – carving, carpentry and cabinetmaking, woodturning and working with green wood, and the other with basically the same agenda, but adding metalwork and the stated aim of helping to maintain the health, mental and physical, of men. The Wellington Guild of Woodworkers was established in 1984 to *“Bind together all those persons with an interest in woodcraft. These are people who love good wood and working with it.*

*People who make things with love and care and pride and skill, to the best of their ability .The purpose of the Guild is to foster and encourage the craft of woodworking and the desire to make things to a certain standard".* By the end of the 1980s several clubs had sprung up throughout New Zealand and a campaign, led by Ken Sager, was mounted to form a National Association of Woodworkers. There are now 40 Clubs in New Zealand most of which have their own club rooms and most are members of the NAW.

The purpose of the MenzShed movement, established in Australia, was to assist men of retirement age, living in isolated communities and in need of the ability to meet with other men, to share their skills, to help each other to create a purpose and direction and to be able to discuss with each other medical conditions. Their combined skills could be used to assist with other needs in their communities and promote well -being. One of the earliest sheds began in Broken Hill, NSW, to provide assistance to former miners. MenzShed New Zealand was established in 2010 following the establishment of the Australian national body in 2002. Now Sheds exist in Ireland, Scotland, and the UK. In 2015 The Shed Association was established in Canada and in 2017 the US Men's Shed Assoc was established.

Here in Lower Hutt the MenzShed Naenae started in January 2009 in temporary premises behind the Full of Beans café. This proved to be too expensive and the Naenae Shed group spent a year in Wainuiomata before moving into its own purpose built premises in Treadwell St in 2012. It must be said that the Naenae Shed has had the support of the Hutt City Council right from the start and funding from the Council has been ongoing and former City Councillor Barbara Branch was particularly supportive and continues to be one of the Shed's Trustees. In 2012 the Guild was able to move its lathes into the Treadwell St building just before the building that housed them at Naenae College was demolished. In all there are 8 lathes in the Naenae Shed enabling both Shed members and Guild members to develop their woodturning skills.

Many Guild members are also MenzShed members – in fact the leadership and drive of Archie Kerr reflects the close connection – he is a former Guild President and is also the long-time ‘Director’ of the Naenae Shed and I am pleased to be able to say that most of the woodturners who meet in the Shed on Wednesday and Thursday night also belong to both organisations.

**HDM**

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### ***.PRESIDENT’S CORNER***

In the last few weeks I have been busy tutoring a beginners’ course in Woodturning at the Tawa MENZ Shed. I have four students who have never operated a lathe before so they are learning the basics.

After talking to Dick Veitch of the NAW I decided to base the classes on the NAW training guide and notes (Part 1) which covers a basic introduction to the lathe and tools and takes a hands on approach with each student completing a succession of projects at their own pace.

I am new to teaching and only obtained the course material a week before the course started so had little time to prepare. So far things have gone fairly smoothly with no accidents despite my apprehension about introducing the dreaded skew chisel on day1. (I was assured by Dick that this was the correct approach). (No comment .Ed.)

The main thing is everyone is enjoying themselves and I am learning too. We are getting regular enquiries via the Guild website from people who want to learn basic woodturning and woodworking. I already have people interested to consider repeating the course next year. I would like those of you who already have these skills to consider running or helping with more of this type of basic introductory course for wannabe woodies. It can be great fun and if enough of you step forward it will make things easier for the Guild to make it happen. At the end of the course I will

encourage students to join the Guild with the incentive that they can take their learning to the next level.

Dick has given me a complete set of course notes for the NAW training scheme and if I get some assistance I think we can offer level 2 training and beyond. I still have some gaps in my knowledge so will need some help. The deal with NAW is that we report the progress of our students to the NAW and that they join the NAW if they wish to proceed beyond level 1.

The course is being held at the Tawa MENZ Shed and I would like to thank Tawa and give special thanks to Jack Fry for his help in making this possible.

Finally I would like to extend to all members my best wishes for Christmas and the coming New Year.

**Mark**

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**Michael's File**

***THREE THOUGHTS***

Pencils have a universal property of which you may not be aware. Pick up a pencil, use it and put it down, and it moves into the 4<sup>th</sup> dimension, never to be seen again. Pick up another, use it, put it down, and it moves into the 5<sup>th</sup> dimension. Scientists believe that in the multi-universe there are about 14 dimensions so you need at least 15 pencils. I have what is probably called a pencil hedgehog...obviously a piece of wood shaped like a hedgehog with lots of drilled holes in which pencils can be stored. ( I presume this is screwed to the desk top to prevent movement into another dimension. Ed )

I have been making a fairly large octagonal box out of ply. It was suggested that the ply should be veneered before being cut...this I did. The angles for an octagonal box are quite fine and need to be accurate, as with all mitred boxes. My skills are not those of a professional and so the extreme joints are not perfect. If I build another one (which I doubt)

I might consider veneering the outer surface after joining the sides together – it will enable trimming of the veneer at the corners. Some years ago, at a flea market, I bought a three-sided clamp for \$5. I wasn't sure how I was going to use it. When veneering the edge of the ply discussed above, it came in very handy...with some protective cardboard on each side of the ply the clamp was used to compress a solid piece of wood on top of the edging veneer .. this held it nicely in place. It was \$5 well spent.



**Michael**

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### **Bryan Hawkins' Tip** *DRILL PRESS TABLE*

After many years of being frustrated with my drill press and trying to drill accurate repeat holes I got round to making a proper table during lockdown as in the attached photograph. I got thinking about doing this when I saw a new product on the Axminster Tool web site but at over \$300 I was challenged. I researched other options on the web, many

DIY versions but I ended up designing my own to create what I consider to be a table that gives a lot of options but is simple to set up. I used just one piece of track, 1220mm long, available from Machinery House and Carbatec, but I am sure there are other places where this is available. I made my own T bolts (from standard bolts) and knobs with



nuts embedded. The table is mounted on the round drill press base with 3 toggles allowing it to be aligned in many ways by rotating or offsetting the cast drill table

The fence can easily be moved back and forth on the track with sliding toggles. There is a stop that can be left or right mounted on the track on the top of the fence. One could be used on both sides if needed.

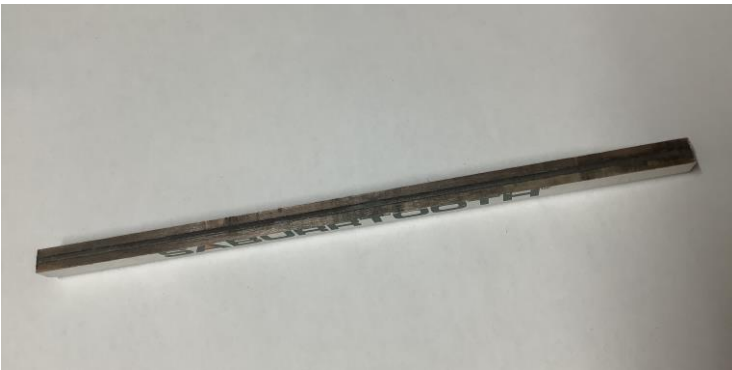
The work can be held in place using one or both of the down clamps which slide in the horizontal tracks and are easily removed for larger panels to be drilled.

The main construction is MDF (scraps from other jobs). In the centre of the table there is a waste block that can be replaced as it gets damaged by use. The table is 310mm deep and 500mm long.

**Bryan**

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### ***MARK'S TIP***



Above is a carpenter's pencil that I have sanded down to expose the lead, making sure that it is straight. I then use this when I am turning to expose high spots on the outside of cylinders or the base of a bowl.

Simple but effective.

**Mark**

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## **WORKING WITH LASERS**

At the “Turnaround 2020” exhibition at Odlins gallery earlier in this year I was fortunate to be a gallery Keeper on one of the days during the Guild’s demonstration weekend. Walking around the gallery I noticed a piece made by Hartmut Kuwilsky which had delicate designs on the rim .As it turned out Hartmut was demonstrating that day so after I finished my Gallery stint I went and sat with him and he started showing me how his Laser machine worked.

In no way do I have the ability to draw so embellishing pieces of my woodturning with designs, as others can do, is beyond me. This Laser engraving certainly piqued my interest. In fact as soon as I was given the information about where to purchase I got onto the Banggood.com website and purchased my laser – the NEJE MASTER 2 Upgraded 7W Smart Laser Engraver at a cost of \$360 NZ including shipping.

(If you are thinking of purchasing a Laser machine I suggest you have a good look at the deals on this site as on the day of writing this, the price for my machine was \$268 NZ plus \$17 NZ for shipping.

Once my machine arrived I found it very easy to put together and to download and install the NEJE software to run it. With a little help from some Youtube clips I was soon creating images.

One of the uses I wanted this unit for was to be able to neatly name the foot of bowls rather than trying to handwrite my signature. To be able to do this on large bowls I realised that I was going to have to come up with some way of raising the laser head to be able to do the bottom of large bowls. When standard, the laser head is xxxxxmm above the table. So I built a frame to hold the laser at different heights to overcome this problem.

The NEJE software comes with a gallery of images that you can engrave so that’s where I started, After playing around with some of these images I went looking for other images on the web that I could download and use. Again there are many places on the web that have free downloads



of graphics but the best I have found is pinterest.com. Once you join the site (it is free) you can set up boards then download to those.

I have always been interested in Celtic designs so have found many of these on this site and have downloaded quite a number.

There is a download included in the NEJE instructions for a program that enables you to create your own designs. It is called 'Inkscape'. It is relatively easy to use but it does pay to go to Youtube and watch the tutorial videos.

This unit also ships with the ability to create designs in G-code. But at this stage I have not played around with it – unlike Hartmut.

The possibilities of use for this unit, I believe, are endless, not only in woodturning but in any area of woodworking. I am currently pondering on how I can engrave the inside bottom of large bowls but have yet to find a satisfactory solution.

I hope that this whets your appetite to try something new.

**Terry Driskel**

*( Terry, Hartmut and Roger Giles will have their units at the Shed during Demonstration Day on Sat 12 Dec for two sessions Ed)*

**REMEMBER!!**

**DEMONSTRATION DAY**

**NAENAE MenzShed SATURDAY 12 Dec**

**10am - 4pm. BBQ lunch. Raffles.**

**\$25**





## SUB-GROUPS

HUTT 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: NICK CROCKER (2<sup>nd</sup> Tues)  
021 428 187

*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	Mark Wilkins	0211428187
Vice President	David Feind	027555787
Secretary	Peter Whitehead	476 7227
Treasurer	David Firth	021398241
Membership Sec	Warwick Smith	233 8042
	Brian Cropp	938 8020
Webmaster	Paul Dudding	0211882656
Events	Nick Crocker	479 044
	Dave Winthrop	0274420167
	Gordon Crichton	02102475290

### Library

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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, George Brown, Jack Fry, Eric Cairns

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