

PROFILE OF A TURNER

Viv Paust like many of our turners, has had a wide and varied experience, both academically and practically. His father was a schoolteacher, serving in many country towns. Viv finished his primary schooling in South Perth.

Secondary schooling was firstly at Kent Street and then at Perth Modern School. While academic subjects presented no terrors to Viv, he always preferred the more practical subjects such as technical drawing and woodwork. From Modern School he went direct to Teachers Training College at Claremont without first having had to be a monitor. He also had to convince the Education Department that he could be trained as a Manual Arts teacher without first being a tradesman.

To enlarge his manual skills, Viv undertook a wide variety of activities such as boat building, fibre glass and ceramic work. During this period, he supplemented his income by spearfishing and selling his catch to fish shops. Upon graduation, he requested an appointment near the coast as he was a member of the State Spearfishing team. The Department complied, by sending him to Norseman.

Not all was lost with the move, as this is where he met Verna who became his very supportive wife. During his time in Norseman, he was required to commute by train to Esperance in order to open a Manual Arts Centre there.

From there he served in Mt Helena for two years then to Applecross for five years during which period he studied for an Art Teaching degree in Fine Arts. Just to keep properly busy during this time, he built a house and helped Verna raise their family. Promotion saw the family in Collie and then back to Perth and lecturing at Nedlands Teachers College in Audio Visual. This job suited his combined talents of practical work plus his art training.

Always one to contribute to the community he became heavily involved with Lions. Viv was awarded a scholarship to study in the United States but by this time he had become very disenchanted with education policy and did not take up the scholarship.

As a complete change in lifestyle, they bought a caravan park in Jurien which they ran very successfully for five years. Following another venture Viv returned to teaching firstly at Applecross then Moora and finally at Wanneroo. Having previously built themselves homes in Bayswater and Karrinyup, plus one for his father-in-law in Norseman, Viv undertook to build two houses in Jurien.

It was while in Moora that Viv picked up his wood turning and on his return to Perth discovered WAWA. The first demonstration he saw was conducted by Ivor Bridges and at first, he thought Ivor was doing everything back to front. He soon discovered that there was much to learn about tools and how they best worked, and he has been more than happy to give whatever he can to furthering the objectives of WAWA and its members. Those who have benefitted from his demonstrations can attest to his skill as a teacher and a communicator.

Since his retirement, Viv has undertaken two voluntary assignments which have given him great satisfaction. One was teaching some children on a sheep station out from Meekatharra and the second was in East Timor for the Silesian Religious Community in Dili. Viv set up a combined teaching and production line workshop for young men aged 18-25 years. All were East Timorese orphans or school dropouts. The success of the venture can be measured by the degree of hope expressed by the people involved including writing a song about it. This venture has led to further projects, one being in agriculture and another in sewing.

Viv is now in the process of building another home, this time at Bindoon, mostly using recycled timber bought at auction or from demolition sites. We all wish him well and we know he shall continue to encourage the craft of woodturning and to indulge in the fellowship of his WAWA membership. 1997

Extract from WAWA Newsletter issue 62 dated April/May 1996

KENWICK GROUP WEEKEND WORKSHOP MARCH 1996

Sunday afternoon was spent most entertainingly with **Viv Paust** nominally on the subject of Doughnut Turning.

Not only did we get an exciting demonstration of the process and a good indication of its wide potential, but we also enjoyed the good humour of a very popular demonstrator. Viv also gave us a very thought-provoking talk on his two months' work helping Timorese youth develop woodworking skills. This gave us some insight into the conditions in which they are working and the warmth of their friendship.

Extract from WAWA Newsletter issue 73 dated December 1997/January 1998

Tips from Brookton weekend.

Pewter filler Viv Paust has used pewter to fill/beautify natural holes in burl. Pewter melts somewhere between 400C and 700C. It can be heated to a liquid state on a gas stove or with a hand torch. Viv found an open container is not satisfactory. He recommends a container with lid and a pourer like a metal teapot but make sure it isn't held together by only solder joints. Add a little olive oil as this sits above the molten pewter and inhibits oxidising. Viv placed the workpiece on casting sand to act as a barrier as he poured the molten pewter into the spaces. He found that he was able to turn, cutting timber and pewter without difficulty.

Pewter is 97% tin and 2% copper. He was not satisfied with the results on his first jarrah burl bowl but was sufficiently encouraged to keep trying. He obtained pewter supplies from Buckingham Pewter Osborne Park. Jim Clarke pointed out safety aspects including the need to keep out any moisture - molten pewter may explode dangerously. It is essential to use safety glasses and protective apron and gloves (preferably leather).

Filling with epoxy resin Viv Paust demonstrated the use of epoxy resin as a filler. Using his method of doughnut turning to produce small fish outlines which he fixed in grooves turned into the edge of bowls platters or vases Viv showed how these can be fixed and finished to produce attractive embellishment to the workpiece. Epoxy resin is better than polyester resin as it is stronger, bonds well to the wood and has minimal shrinkage as it cures. This is a two-part mixture of resin and hardener. Adding the hardener produces heat. External heat will accelerate the process but avoid naked flame. Too much heat can be dangerous and produce unsatisfactory results. Select a container that will not be affected by the chemicals.

Milk cartons are satisfactory also some types of plastic cup. Use a stick like a used ice cream pop stick and mix the desired quantity carefully to avoid bubbles.

Viv is sparing with the hardener and uses the heat of an electric bulb to warm the mixture as he prepares it. Watch that the hardener is mixed in properly. It tends to rise to the top and sides of the container. It only took a short time to mix to desired consistency and Viv

poured the mixture into his mould. It takes a varying time to go off - perhaps 20 - 25 minutes depending on temperature of the day, humidity etc. It will take several hours to go off to hard state where it can be turned and finished.
ALWAYS USE SAFEIY GLASSES. There are some nasties in the mixture.

Extract from WAWA Newsletter issue 93 dated April/May 2001

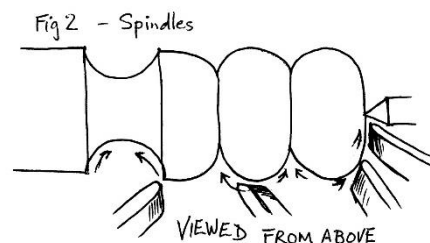
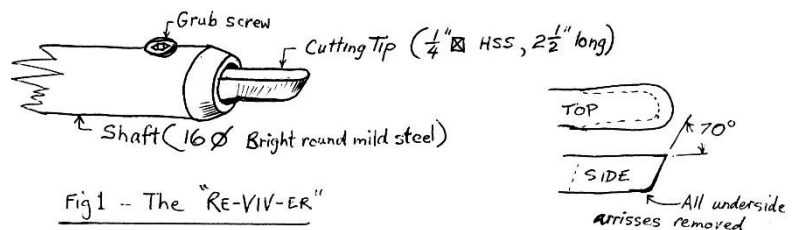
THE TOOL I CALL THE "RE.VIV.ER"

I developed this tool because I have found round shaft tools the most convenient for me- my skew is round; all my flat tools are rounded on the back.

This has two advantages: -

1. The tool rest remains smooth.
2. No matter which way you present the cutting edge to your work there is little or no twisting force against you, and you have better control, because the centre of the shaft is directly above the point of contact on the tool rest.

On the "Re-viv-er" (with Viv on it, it must be ok) there is a robust shaft and a small cutter. The cutter is ground at about 70° around the nose and for a short distance down each side. It is designed to cut with the bevel rubbing and the top surface tilted sufficiently to obtain a slicing cut- (corkscrew shavings and a clean no tears surface). On spindles, it is easy to produce clean coves, beads, fillets and end facing. (Fig 2.) Using the same technique- bevel rubbing, top face tilted to one side-- all face plate and bowl work (except deep undercutting) can be done. **Viv Paust.**



Extract from Newsletter issue 143 date August/September 2009

Observations Wanneroo/Joondalup WEWS 2009

Viv Paust commenced the final demonstration of the day continuing the toy theme with the construction of racing cars and wheels. Viv passed around examples of the racing cars then proceeded to explain and demonstrate his construction method.

This involved several detailed jigs which enables Viv to make two cars simultaneously. Just when the audience was captivated by the demo, disaster struck, and Viv was forced to make a sudden exit and did not return. Tony Collins explained that Viv had taken ill and had to leave suddenly. However, Frank Evans stepped into the breach and proceeded to complete the demonstration in spite of the many unhelpful but humorous suggestions he received from some members of the audience. Frank was challenged with an extremely difficult task to pick up the demonstration midway but to his credit he completed the construction of the racing car. Well done, Frank. We wish Viv well and trust that he had a speedy recovery.

Extract from Newsletter issue 143 date August/September 2009

Observations Mandurah WEWS 2009

Viv Paust with exploiting the cross-sectional shapes of your woodturning.

Viv explained that he took some inspiration from Stephen Hogden cutting creatively and demonstrated a box with circular patterns on the top and bottom using sacrificial edges combined with the use of aluminium spigots and hot melt glue. He also showed how to create a repetitious pattern for the sides of a magazine rack. Viv went on to demonstrate doughnut turning and passed around numerous samples of his work which included cut out shapes of fish, turtles, kangaroos and a railway train around a plate border. Viv's demo would have certainly inspired creativity from the audience.

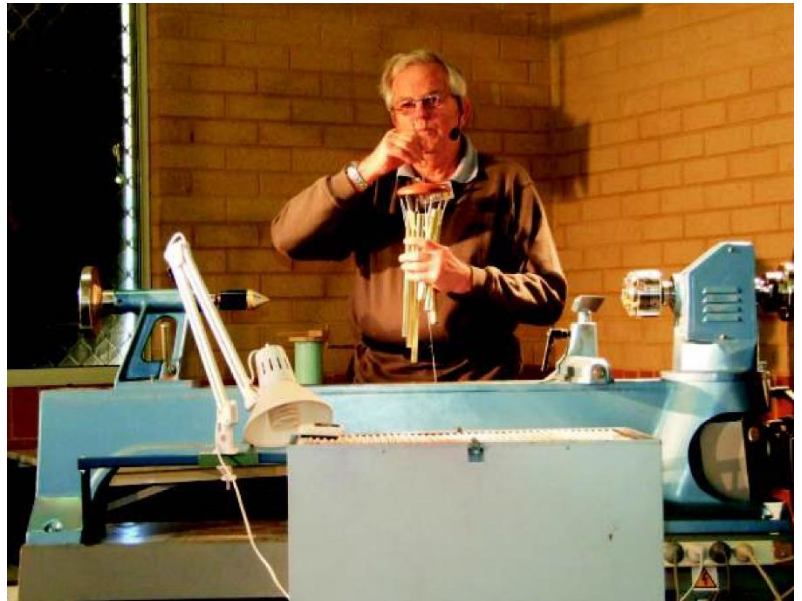


Extract from Newsletter issue 144 October/November 2009

Observations Swan WEWS 2009

The first demonstration was from **Viv Paust** making an Ashes Urn. Good one Viv as it turned out it is the only one Australia will get this year. Viv first made his apologies for his sudden illness at Wanneroo, giving a public thank you to Frank Evans for his assistance. He then finished the body of the racing car and passed it around. Using a simple but clever scratch gauge Viv then showed us how to make the wheels all the same and the right size to fit the car. Full details will be available on the Web. As with all of Viv's demonstrations how to make the urn was packed with tips that a turner could adapt to any project. Viv explained how he

sketches out his project then uses a mirror to manipulate the shape of the diagram, after showing us how he passed around his mirror set up. He showed us the use of a hand drill that was also a depth gauge, and gave hollowing tips using special cutters. By using hot melt glue to fix a plate on the hollowed end he was able to use the tailstock to minimise vibration. A well-prepared demo with plenty of useful information for turners of all levels.



Extract from Newsletter issue 149 dated August/September 2010

Observations Joondalup/Wanneroo WEWS June 2010

First on was **Viv Paust** with My Tools My Way.

Viv explained that he had watched a lot of demonstrators and over the years had adapted his techniques to follow the best of the best. He had made most of his tools using ideas from what he had seen and adapting them to suit his style and job requirements. According to Viv the all-important factor in turning is grain direction and he proved his point with a hatchet and a small branch. He used a shallow roughing gouge to demo slicing cuts and giving tips on roughing down to best prepare the wood for the desired task. Viv then used a skew chisel to slice some shavings showing that they should be thicker in the centre than the ends. He then gave tips on sharpening the skew. We were then treated to a poem he had written (is there no end to this man's talents). Taking up the skew again Viv cut convex and concave curves, planing, V cutting then some beads, all this with a tool most of us do not use. Viv explained that he grinds his spindle gouges freehand and passed around a wooden model of what he considers to be the ideal grind with swept back sides; he then showed its uses. Viv then introduced the ReVIVER a round steel spindle type gouge with interchangeable tips which he used to demo hollowing end grain followed by hollowing cross grain with a conventional bowl gouge. Viv gave a summary of what he had covered then showed three types of parting tools he had made then went back to hollowing cross grain with a bowl gouge, a roughing gouge, a spindle gouge and the reviver. To prove a point that you don't need an edge on a scraper Viv used a piece of broken glass as a scraper, don't do this at home unless you call the ambulance first. Viv said that he learnt a lot from others, well we sure learnt a lot from Viv.

Extract from Newsletter issue 150 dated October/November 2010

Observations Wandu WEWS 2010

Viv Paust being first up showing how to make wind chimes. Viv rang the chimes to announce his arrival, not as some thought for free drinks, and then into the demo. Viv explained he purchased the chime kits that came in two different sizes, leaving him to turn the three wood parts and to assemble the unit. First, he made the top from which the chimes are to hang, Viv used a template to mark the position to drill holes for the cords in the blank, after mounting between chuck and live centre he cut a spigot which he fastened in the chuck to cut another spigot for the bottom he then shaped, sanded and finished. Viv then reversed the piece and shaped the top and sides, sanded and finished. Using a stand that he had made for the sale of walking sticks Viv threaded the cord through the chimes and fastened them to the top, a dab of super glue stops the knot from becoming undone. Viv then made the donger by holding a predrilled blank against a soft pad fastened to a wood base and held in the chuck, he then shaped, sanded and finished the donger. Next came the wind gatherer, a flat piece of wood held between the chuck and a live centre. Viv explained that it can be shaped by a spindle gouge or skew chisel and can be offset for effect. After the gatherer is sanded and finished the assembly is completed and the wind chimes are ready for use. As usual Viv provided the members with many helpful hints that can be applied to many tasks as well as making wind chimes.

Extract from Newsletter issue 152 January 2011

Observations Busselton WEWS 2010

Viv Paust was first with a demonstration of segmented turning using a lathe and a bandsaw as the main machinery. Viv stated that he would show how to make a clock which he passed around, the clock was made of sandalwood with a jarrah backing, the hands and numbers were made from ivory piano keys. He then showed how he clamped a branch on a sled so as to cut slabs on a bandsaw, the slabs are cut into segments of 30 degrees, 12 are needed plus some spares. Viv then showed a sanding table he had made that was adjustable for various lathes and with a sanding disc on the lathe set up for 30-degree sanding, he then sanded the edges. After dry fitting the segments, Viv then glued them up in groups until he had a complete circle, he then turned the disc to make the back of the clock, then trued up the face.

Viv shared with us his memories of his early turning as a teacher in the bush, showing a bowl he had made from 19mm pine in 1986. He described how he designed the bowl and cut the segmented rings on a bandsaw, ever the economist he saved the offcuts to make a smaller bowl. He used a template on the lathe to determine the centre and using hot melt glue to hold the segments in place on a melamine board, then fixed the base into a chuck on the lathe and clamped with the tailstock. Gradually build up the segments to form the bowl shape, after the glue is set the bowl was turned then displayed at Busselton 24 years later.

After a technically excellent and entertaining demonstration came the bad news, Viv announced that we had witnessed his last woodturning demonstration

Extract from Newsletter number 157 dated November 2011

Viv Paust

Viv joined the Association in June 1987 and has been a member for 23 years.

During that time, he has been an active member, quickly and frequently becoming involved in practical workshop demonstrations, and readily participating in workshops at both Association and Group level. His training as a Manual Arts teacher has enabled him to professionally and enthusiastically pass on his knowledge, practical skills and design knowledge to members at all levels. His demonstrations based upon years of experience and laced with a unique humour, have always been well received and interesting. His approach to challenges has always been enlightening. Viv spent two years as a Committee Member and was most active in the administration aspects and contributing a great deal of input. In the early days of the Joondalup/Wanneroo Group moving to its current premises, he made his home available to members for meetings and hands on activities for those who wished to participate in woodturning activities, when the club room premises were not available. His turning is of the highest standard resulting in his being awarded the Cyril Jones trophy in 1997, 2001 and 2003.

