

EXPO Presentations

1. Setting up a workshop for Cabinet Making

Anyone planning to advance their cabinet making is faced with an ever-growing range of equipment, jigs and gadgets which could be used in their workshop. How do you know where to start and how best to invest your money?

Come and benefit from the experience of our speakers in setting priorities for development of an appropriately equipped workshop and layout to match and grow to meet your needs.

Speakers: Paul Roberts and Neville Comins – Both cabinet makers with 40+ years practical experience each and who have produced award winning projects at the Expos.

2. How do you get into woodturning?

Many people admire the creativity and skill achieved by wood turners, as our EXPO displays will confirm. Getting started, however, can present a number of challenges and we ask why should one want to learn the 'hard-way'. Our Association has numerous outstanding woodturners as well as a large number of people growing in experience and confidence. Come and hear about the best way to get started or to advance to more complex techniques. The presentation will guide you as to what equipment your needs, depending on your interests and how to learn the skills.

Speaker: Reinald Böhringer

3. The Art of Woodcarving

Few people are not impressed by the beauty of woodcarving, be it as a display item or as adornment on a piece of furniture or a tuned item. There are different styles of carving and each requires both development of the skills and the right equipment. The presentation will introduce different aspects of wood carving and explain the best manner to learn these techniques in a proven programme of training.

Speaker: Audrey Miles

4. You can't do any woodwork with blunt tools

For all those who have done any woodwork, be it a DIY project or something more ambitious, how often do you struggle with blunt tools? Even when you buy a new tool, is it ready for 'action' or does it need to be tuned? In fact, do you know what a really sharp tool looks and feels like? Once you have used a sharp hand tool, be it a hand plane or a chisel or something else, you will understand the pleasure of the task.

Come and see how you can sharpen tools and the different methods to achieve a sharp edge. You will enjoy your next project much more!

Speakers: Reinald Böhringer, Ben Prinsloo and Jan van Tonder

5. Preparing wood for cabinet making

When building a cabinet from solid wood it is most necessary to have the components flat and square and to size. How is this achieved after being bought from your timber merchant? Much of the wood bought from timber merchants have various defects. Learn how to overcome these defects and to estimate how much wood is needed for a project. The presentation will deal with all of these aspects as well as the type of equipment needed.

Speaker: Paul Roberts. Paul presented a mentoring session on the topic in 2017 and also made a presentation at the Wood Expo in the same year.

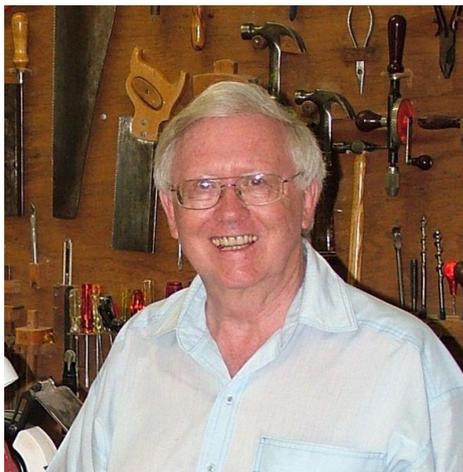
6. Using hand tools

A lot of woodwork can be accomplished with hand tools which hold some advantages over machinery. Hand tools provide a great deal of satisfaction in their use and should not be discounted when setting up a workshop. Learn about what hand tools are needed as well as their application in short demonstrations. Come along and pose your woodworking questions!

Speakers: Paul Roberts and Neville Comins.

Some background on our Speakers

Paul Roberts



Paul is a retired civil engineer with a career in water resources management. Woodwork has been one of his interests since school days when he gave up Latin to

rather take woodwork! Paul has an interest in cabinet making and turning. Paul joined the Association in 2003 and has served on various management structures.

Neville Comins



Neville is a retired physicist/material scientist and a consultant on innovation. He grew his interest in cabinet making while at high school in Pietermaritzburg and has continued since to grow his skills with both hand and power tools. He has been a member of the Association for many years and is currently Chairman.

Reinald Böhringer



Reinald devoted his career to agricultural extension and education. As a youngster his hobby developed from an inherent curiosity of how things work, and he became quite good at disassembling things. Putting it back together however was a different matter! His crafting skills developed out of necessity; building things like simple furniture, hanging doors, welding fences and the like. A few years before retirement he was introduced to woodturning. During that time his Father in law presented him with his homemade lathe and he began honing his woodturning skills. Today he mainly turns household articles, to a lesser extent one of a kind art/craft articles.