

WOODWORKER'S SHOWCASE

Showcase your woodwork projects

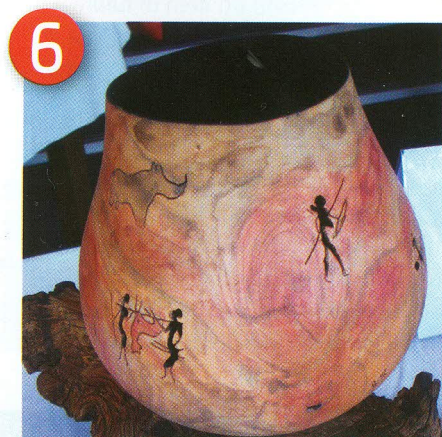
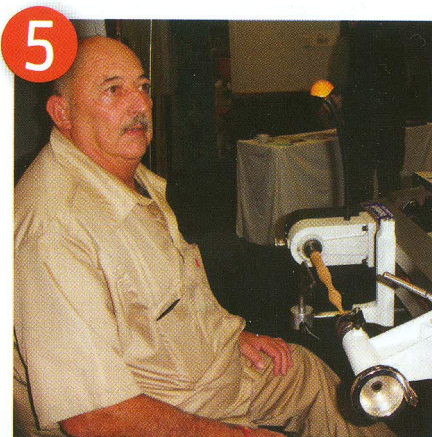
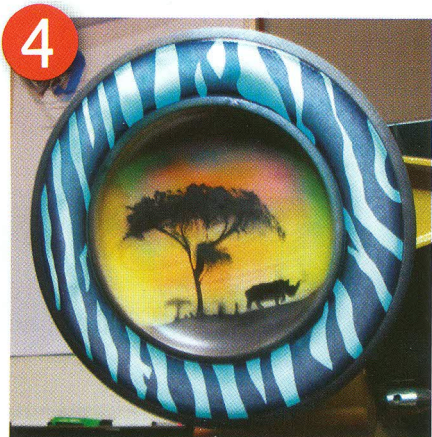
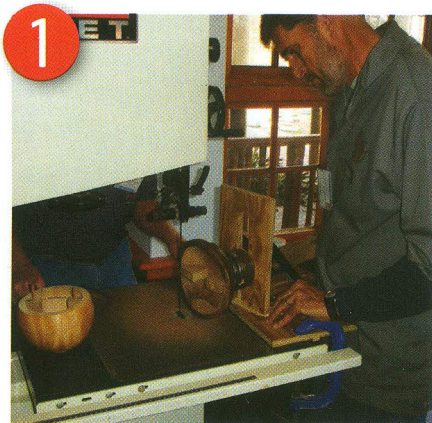
Woodturning Symposium 2019

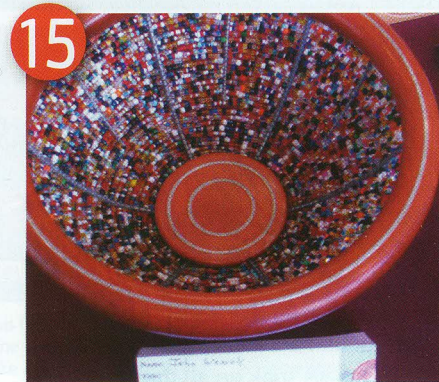
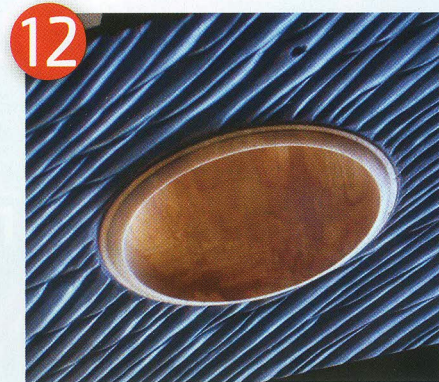
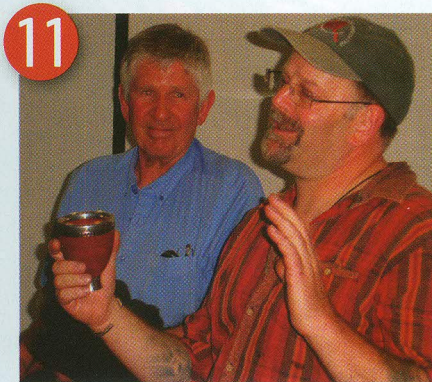
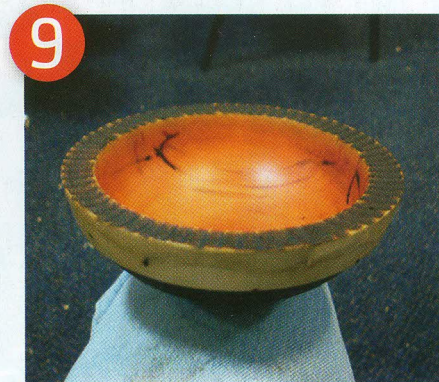
The Association of Woodturners of South Africa, an umbrella body representing woodturners in South Africa, organises an annual symposium. This year, they gathered at the Wilderness Hotel on the Garden Route for two-and-half-days of demonstrations and presentations on woodturning. The headline demonstrator was Nick Agar, who last visited 10 years ago in 2009. Nick, an accomplished woodturning artist who is a native of Devon in south England, recently moved to Georgia in the USA. Over five sessions, Nick shared many of his techniques, and made several pieces on the lathe.

Strand Hardware were the main sponsor, and the association also received support from a number of smaller businesses. This support, together with voluntary work from members helped to make the symposium a success. In 2020, the Association of Woodturners hope to stage the symposium in Pretoria, to give many of the up-country members the chance to attend.

The 2019 symposium occupied two large rooms at the Wilderness Hotel. One was filled with a shop selling tools and machinery from the main sponsor, Strand Hardware, and the gallery of member's items. There were also ongoing demonstrations in the sales area. The adjacent function room hosted the formal proceedings. About 80 delegates watched the demonstrations and presentations.

The headline demonstrator, Nick Agar last visited South Africa in 2009 when he toured the woodturning clubs and demonstrated at the AWSA congress at the Center of Visual Arts, UKZN at the Pietermaritzburg campus. In the first session, he showed how he makes his signature Viking bowl. It took him two hours to make the one shown in the photos. Those who attended his master classes had the opportunity to make one of their own.





1. The use of a Powermatic 3520B lathe loaned by Strand and a video camera gave closeup views of the action. Ashwin Ramhith of PE is showing a detail of a bowl during a demo
2. Nick Agar's signature Viking bowl
3. At the masterclass at Strand Hardware in Randburg, you can see the students proudly showing off their bowls.
4. In another session, Nick made a 'Wave' bowl using airbrushing to create a rounded edge illusion. The bush scene was created using stencils and masking
5. Johan Kramer showed off his lathe stand that allows the turner to work sitting down – this is specifically intended for people who are unable to stand and

6. may be wheelchair bound
6. Carel van der Merwe showed how to create natural stone illusions on turnings using milk paint
7. Nick Agar used rotary carving tools to create the illusion of a weathered stone surface
8. Another piece made in demos by Nick; he used a combination of inks and stencils create the paint effects that you can see
9. Ashwin Ramhith's pyrography is not so much shading as texturing. He likes to use a thick wire running at red heat for his work
10. This pyrographed platter was turned by John Wessels from a large piece of yellowwood and the pyrography was done by the local artist Xoliswa.

11. It was presented to the local George Museum. The picture shows Roy Marcus on the left, the director of the George Museum, DA local councilor and Xoliswa on the right
11. John Wessels (left) gave Nick one of his signature pewter inlaid bowls as a thank you for his visit
12. Platter by Andrew Stevens
13. This bowl was made by Mervin Walsh using the technique he demonstrated on the bandsaw for making the eccentric ring around the outside
14. Roy Gibbs received a special mention for this pyrographed platter
15. John Wessels combined wood, pewter inlays and beadwork to produce this masterpiece

For more information, visit www.awsa.org.za

Write to us

Send us pictures of your project.

Write a caption with your name, surname, inspiration, type of wood, etc. and send to editorial@homehandyman.co.za

